UKRAINIAN NEWS
УКРАЇНСЬКІ ВІСТІ
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Kuchma fires Marchuk, appoints Lazarenko

(INFOBANK/OMRI/JF Monitor)—President Leonid Kuchma fired Prime Minister Yevhen Marchuk May 27, replacing him with former First Deputy Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko, the following day.

Lazarenko, 43, and a native of Kuchma's power base, Dnipropetrovsk oblast, is a close political ally of the president.

In an official statement, Lazarenko pledged his support for President Leonid Kuchma's economic policies, Ukrainian and Western agencies reported.

Lazarenko said his economic priorities include speeding up privatization and structural changes in the economy, attracting more foreign investment, overcoming the payments and wage debt crises, reorganizing the government, and pushing a recently submitted package of reform-related bills through parliament.

Lazarenko added that the reorganization of the Cabinet of Ministers may become necessary to fulfill these goals.

Kuchma said at a government meeting that Marchuk failed to resolve Kyiv's wage debt crisis and pursue economic reforms because he was more concerned with his political image and popularity.

Kuchma also questioned Marchuk's commitment to reforms.

Volodymyr Horbulin, Secretary of the Council of National Security, and advisor to Kuchma, said relations between the president and the former prime minister have been tense for some time.

He said two recent incidents led to Marchuk's dismissal.

The first was Kuchma's trip to Donetsk oblast where coal-miners told him that none of the demands they made during the strike had been fulfilled.

The second was an interview given by Marchuk in the Saturday issue of the newspaper Zerkalo Niedieli ("Weekly Mirror') in which he was critical of the president.

Meanwhile, Marchuk rejected the administration's reasons for his dismissal, Ukrainian TV reported.

He said it was easy to blame a single prime minister for all of the country's economic woes, but the "roots are much deeper" and that although it was the president's right to oust him, "history and time will put everything in its place."

Since his appointment as premier in July 1995, Marchuk had complained that he lacked sufficient powers to govern.

The abrupt dismissal of Marchuk prompted varied reaction from across Ukraine's political spectrum.

Regional governors, many centrists, and right-wing forces supported the move as necessary because Marchuk had strayed too far from the president's policies.

Leftists said President Kuchma is more concerned with clan interests than with the good of the country.

Observers speculated that Marchuk's growing opposition to a national referendum on the new draft Ukrainian constitution, which Kuchma promotes, prompted the measure.

Many believe Marchuk may replace Oleksander Moroz as speaker of the Ukrainian Parliament and lead a full-fledged opposition against the president.

Reforms faction deputy Yuriy Orobets said the main reason behind the change was the power struggle among various political circles in which the Dnipropetrovsk clique has come out on top.

Cont. on P. 3

PHOTO — ROMAN PETRIW

Sneak preview of Vohon Show

Ukrainian News was able to get a sneak preview of the Edmonton-based Vohon Ukrainian Dance Ensemble's ambitious new production during the group's Ukrainian Festival held in Sherwood Park, May 25-26. Pictured above is a segment from the "Night of Ivan Kupalo" number which will be included in the group's repertoire as they tour Australia this summer and, later, Western Canada. The festival, which was held in order to raise funds for this very tour, was a resounding success. Preliminary estimates indicate that between 3,000 and 4,000 people attended this first-time event. Organizers say the festival may become an annual feature due its popularity. For more on the Festival, see Page 11 of this issue.

Марчук пішов. Марчук повернеться?

Віталій Ічнянець

(КБУВ) — Відставка прем'єр–міністра України Евгена Марчука справила враження грому серед ясного неба.

А причини її — логічні.

«Чорний кіт» між Л. Кучмою і Е. Марчуком як можливими суперниками на наступних президентських виборах пробіг уже давно, хоч обидві сторони й приховували напруженість стосунків від громадськости. І раптом — зрив. Спершу Президент гостро прокритикував уряд. У відповідь керівник уряду не забарився з контрвипадом в інтерв'ю поважній київській газеті «Зеркало недели», яке, можливо, й прискорило розв'язку.

«Я не виключаю можливість спроби використати уряд як розмінну карту в політичній грі. Зкидання уряду під танк політичної коньюнктури застосовувалося вже неодноразово у нашій новітній історії, — заявив Е. Марчук, — але я гадаю, що цього разу так не вийде». Чому? «В силу різних обставин, які я покищо не буду розкривати».

Нині дехто з посиланнями на конфіденційні джерела стверджує, що ці обставини Е. Марчук мав намір розкрити тижнем пізніше, ніж відбулася його відставка, і то був би присуд і Л. Кучмі, і проєктові Конституції. Припущення про можливий альянс між Марчуком і Морозом, з усього судячи, мали під собою грунт: тактично це обом було на руку з прицілом на майбутні походи за владою.

Якщо це справді так, Л. Кучма вправно спрацював на випередження.

Варто мати на увазі й ще деякі обставини замаскованого протистояння двох вершителів української політики, які в рейтинг листах опитування громадської думки посідають нині перші двоє місць. Звітуючи перед парляментом про причини затримок заробітної плати, Е. Марчук (це було незадовго до його відставки) заявив: «Ми дійшли до межі, за якою починається спад виробництва», і навів деякі промовисті цифри, які йшли всупереч твердженням президентської команди про стабілізацію ситуації. Приміром, чотири роки тому 40% родин постійно не вистачало коштів, через два роки – вже 62%, а в першому кварталі нинішнього року таких налічується вже 76%. Заробітна плата реально знизилася в п'ять разів. Висновок: слід вносити корективи в стратегію реформ.

Натомість прес–служба Президента, коментуючи відставку прем'єра, вказувала, що не зважаючи на неодноразові доручення Л. Кучми, бюджетні кошти уряд спрямовував на другорядні цілі. Негативні явища і тенденції стали можливими, тому що «прем'єр–міністр Евген Марчук не забезпечив, як того вимагає ситуація,

Прод. на ст. 2

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Україна: жодного дня без страйків

В цьому відзначилися шахтарі...

(КБУВ) — Міністерство Вугільної Промисловости України законстатувало, що на кінець минулого тижня полишили свої робочі місця понад 4 тис гірників, протестуючи в такий спосіб проти затримок з отриманням заробітної плати. Страйкують 40 шахт.

Втрати вугілля станом на четвер становили 41,7 тис тонн. Водночас шахтарі Львівсько–Волинського вугільнодобувного басейну вдалися до організації акцій протесту проти завезення в Україну польського вугілля.

Це друга нинішнього року страйкова хвиля на підприємствах вугільної промисловости після того, як три місяці тому урядові вдалося вгамувати шахтарський супротив обіцянками погасити заборгованість. Зобов'язання лишилися невиконаними.

Після всеукраїнського лютевого шахтарського страйку протестанти досягли під кінець минулого тижня найвищої активности.

... і дрібні торгівці

(КБУВ) — Попри шкоду, якої завдають економіці України страйки, масові акції протесту з боку представників дрібного бізнесу вселяють певний оптимізм: вони засвідчили, що в Україні вже сформувався і почав міцніти прошарок власників. Та сама «середня кляса», без існування якої суспільство не буде стабільним.

Почалося з того, що український парлямент ухвалив закон «Про патентування деяких видів підприємницької діяльности», в якому передбачено підприємців сфери торгівлі та надання платних послуг обкладати щомісячними зборами в обсязі близько 200 амер. долярів. Переслідуючи мету якнайшвидше поповнити бюджетні надходження, парлямент втратив відчуття міри. Дрібні торгівці не здатні сплачувати таку данину державі, особливо в сільській місцевості, де купівельна спроможність населення вкрай низька...

Цей страйк цікавий ще й тим, що відмовляються працювати не представники державного сектора економіки, а приватні власники. Отож непродумані кроки влади зачепили за живе навіть тих, хто досі не покладався на державу, а спирався на власні сили. А їх, виявляється, вже немало. Мільйони людей подалися із занепащених підприємств у дрібний бізнес, завдяки якому й виживають у цей нелегкий час. І вони вже стають серйозною суспільною силою. Лише на адресу Верховної Ради надійшли петиції з вимогою відкорегувати закон від 5 тисяч дрібних підприємців Житомира, 15 тисяч — Запоріжжя, колективні заяви і звернення з усіх областей України.

Минулої неділі в багатьох містах торгуючий люд влаштував пікети і мітинґи біля приміщень місцевих державних адміністрацій. «Середня кляса» вимагає від Президента накласти вето на цей закон.

Марчук пішов. Марчук повернеться?

Прод. із ст. 1

ефективного і стійкого функціонування уряду і останнім часом, замість повсякденної чорнової роботи з організації його діяльности, зосередив свої зусилля на створенні власного політичного іміджу».

Рішення Президента, підкреслювалося в заяві, підтримали всі присутні на позачерговому засіданні Кабінету Міністрів члени уряду.

Е. Марчук утримався від розлогих коментарів щодо своєї відставки. Сказав лише, що послушний волі Президента, а час мовляв усе розставить по своїх місцях, і скромно пересів до парляментської залі виконувати обов'язки народного депутата, як і пояснювалася причина звільнення з посади прем'єра в офіційному президентському указі. Політологи не сумніваються — то захід у велику політику з іншого боку. Бо прихильників у нього серед центристів, лібералів і «помірних соціялістів» чимало. А завтра, в міру загострення стосунків між Верховною Радою та Президентом, між О. Морозом і Л. Кучмою, їх може стати ще більше...

Людей побито, а винних немає

Ігор Стратій

(КБУВ) — Прокуратура Києва припинила розслідування кримінальної справи за факторами масового побиття людей на Софійському майдані столиці 18 липня минулого року, під час поховання Патріярха Української Православної Церкви (Київський Патріярхат) Володимира.

На думку прокуратури, протистояння стало наслідком неповаги до закону. Однак, говориться в повідомленні прес–групи столичної прокуратури, «слідством не встановлено конкретних осіб, в діях яких міститься викінчений склад злочину, хоч в окремих ситуаціях його формальні ознаки мали місце».

Як відомо, в ході сутичок із спеціяльним міліційним підрозділом «Беркут» того дня постраждали не лише священики та інші учасники траурної процесії, а й народні депутати України, недоторканість яких гарантується законом. Але ж люди, з відома яких зчинилося побоїще, захищені своїми неписаними правами...

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Коли Тато помер, ми хотіли службу таку саму спеціяльну як і він був. Ми знайшли похоронне заведення яке навіть дозволило нам принести старі фотографії і грати його улюблену пісню. І пам'ятник який ми вибрали на цвинтарі був спеціяльно спроєктований для Тата.

Вони допомогли нам пам'ятати про його життя... і це позволило нам дальше продовжуватися із нашим.

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Україна може відмовитися від позаблькового статусу

(КБУВ) — Про це заявив перший заступник Міністра Закордонних Справ України Антон Бутейко на конференції «Ренесанс України» у Варшаві.

«Покищо позаблькoвий статус працює на европейську безпеку», — зазначив він. «Але якщо ми побачимо, що ситуація вимагає інших підходів, то ми будемо його переглядати».

Очевидно ж, малося на увазі нестабільність Росії. Це прямо випливало і з висновків голови комісії із зарубіжних справ польського Сейму Броніслава Геремека, котрий заявив: «Якщо Польща викликає апетит у Росії, то першою піде Україна. Ви маєте сенс сприяти тому, щоб Польща перестала бути таким ласим шматочком...»

Rada gives preliminary approval to constitution

(OMRI/INFOBANK/JF Monitor)—Ukrainian lawmakers voted on June 4 to preliminarily approve the draft of a new post-Soviet constitution, international agencies reported.

Supporters of the draft managed to win a simple majority after President Leonid Kuchma threatened to call a national referendum on the main points in the document.

They hailed the vote as a big step toward consolidating Ukrainian statehood.

The draft enshrines Ukrainian as the only state language and limits Crimean autonomy, which is expected to elicit protests from pro-Russian forces in the region.

It also schedules the next parliamentary elections for March 1998 and presidential elections for October 1999.

Leftist forces said the draft is undemocratic, giving strong powers to the president and dismantling the old system of the soviets.

Observers doubt the democrats can muster the two-thirds majority vote they need to adopt the constitution in its second reading.

Leftist deputies Volodymyr Marchenko and Natalia Vitrenko planned to submit their own alternative draft of the constitution but failed to do so.

In the days leading up to the second reading, the Supreme Council's leftists had run an ongoing campaign to block the constitution.

On May 28 and 29, Communist and socialist deputies deprived the parliament of a quorum by refusing to attend the sittings scheduled to debate the final draft.

During the May 29 evening session, leftist deputies refused to register, demanding the debate over the drafts be postponed until June so they could "consult with their constituencies."

Reformers accused the deputies of delay tactics as the leftists pin their own political hopes on a Communist victory in the Russian presidential race June 16.

The Parliament's socialist chairman Oleksandr Moroz then suspended the parliament's work until June 4.

Pro-reform forces, including the Liberal, Reform, and Rukh parliamentary groups, increasingly called for the ouster of Moroz as chairman and even for the parliament's dissolution by presidential decree and new elections — all in the hope of reducing the size of the existing leftist bloc.

Marchuk-Moroz plot hinted at

Cont. from P. 1

He said the Marchuk government's chief shortcoming was that it failed to lower taxes so that businesses would be able to operate normally

One leader of the parliamentary Derzhavnist (Statehood) group, Levko Lukyanenko, said Lazarenko was predestined to take over the post *of prime minister from the time that* he was first appointed to work in the government.

Lukyanenko, however, added that Marchuk will not leave the political arena and will run for president and that this dismissal will even help him in future election campaigns.

Valentyna Semeniuk, a member of the parliamentary Communist faction told Infobank that Marchuk understood it was necessary to support not the private sector, but rather to begin regulating the economy overall and to introduce state regulation of the economy.

Former President Leonid Kravchuk said Kuchma was entirely justified in replacing the prime minister. He described Lazarenko as a talented practical worker who did well in his administrative work in Dnipropetrovsk and was able to successfully resolve many of the region's problems.

Citing informed sources close to the president, the Rukh Insider said Marchuk was removed because of *an apparent rapprochement* he had reached with the left. In particular, it is alleged that Marchuk had agreed to a plan, inspired by parliament's speaker Oleksandr Moroz, designed to generate a wave of miner's strikes in the Donbas region and use them to remove Kuchma from the presidency and install Marchuk in his place.

It was a wave of strikes in 1993 that placed a Donetsk "heavyhitter," Yukhym Zvyahilsky, in the prime minister's seat.

The Rukh Insider added that Marchuk's lack of initiative in the post of Prime Minister was intended to allow him to distance himself from the perceived inadequacies of the current administration prior to the next general elections and subsequently to successfully run as an independent candidate for the post of president.

Although Lazarenko is not seen as a radical reformer, he is considered a loyal political ally of the presidential administration.

Born in 1953, Lazarenko graduated from the Dnipropetrovsk agricultural institute and worked in the oblast agribusiness complex and in the Dnipropetrovsk Communist Party oblast committee.

In 1991 he was appointed deputy head of the Dnipropetrovsk oblast executive committee.

He later worked as head of the Dnipropetrovsk oblast council and then as head of that oblast's government administration.

He was appointed first deputy prime minister on Sept. 5 1995.

NATO exercises in Ukraine

(OMRI)—Ukrainian Defense Minister Valeriy Shmarov, Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachev, and U.S. Secretary of Defense William Perry attended NATO exercises in Ukraine on June 3, international agencies reported.

The exercises, called Peace Shield '96, are organized within the framework of the Partnership for Peace Program.

They are being held at the Yavorsky testing range in Western Ukraine and will bring together for 10 days 1,300 troops from Ukraine, Russia, the U.S., Poland, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Moldova, Bulgaria, Romania, and Slovakia.

Perry said NATO no longer threatens any former Warsaw Pact country and enhances European stability.

Grachev commented that such exercises help familiarize relations between Partnership for Peace countries, but he was more reserved when asked about NATO expansion and Russia's attitude toward Ukraine's inclusion in the organization.

Reformers calls for resumption of UkrNafta privatization

(INFOBANK)—A group of members of the Ukrainian Parliament (mainly belonging to the Reforms faction) has proposed to resume the privatization of UkrNafta and UkrHazProm Companies, stopped by Parliament in 1995.

The group came up with a draft proposal according to which the privatization of these companies is to be restarted after inventory and indexation of the companies' assets.

Oil and gas pipe-lines, underground storage facilities, as well as other property not liable to privatization, are to be excluded from companies assets and included into state property fund.

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Леся Марисенко

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Коротко

З допомогою канадців

(КБУВ) — Фахівці канадської фірми UMA Engineering та Івано–Франківського центру геодезії і кадастру завершують у Косівському районі реалізацію пілотного проєкту комп'ютеризації земельно–реєстраційної системи. Завдяки цьому під час приватизації галичанам вдасться уникнути багатьох проблем. Можливо, співпраця перенесеться і в інші регіони України.

Комунізм — на лаву підсудних

(КБУВ) — 68 народних депутатів України утворили в парляменті міжрегіональну позафракційну групу «Нюрнберг–2», котра узагальнюватиме факти про «злочинну діяльність КПРС як керівну і спрямовуючу силу тоталітарного режиму, а також підрозділів компартії, зокрема КПУ». Очолили об'єднання Левко Лук'яненко, Евген Пронюк, Лесь Танюк.

Увічнення Степана Бандери

(КБУВ) — Голова Івано–Франківської обласної державної адміністрації Степан Воковецький підписав розпорядження про створення в селі Старому Угринові Калуського району Державного історико–меморіяльного музею Степана Бандери. Заклад фінансуватиметься з обласного бюджету.

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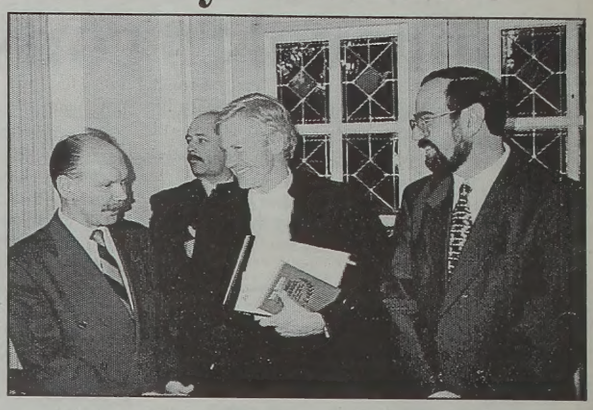
Презентація книжки «Справжні герої» Якова Сусленського

Юлія Войчишин

15–го травня в Commonwealth Room центрального бльоку Парляменту Канади відбулася презентація книжок Якова Сусленського — українською мовою "Справжні герої" та англійською мовою "They Were True Heroes". У підзаголовку написано, що у книжці говориться «про участь громадян України у рятуванні євреїв від фашистського геноциду». Видало цю працю, українською мовою 1993–го, а англійською – 1995–го року. Товариство «Україна» в Києві у співпраці з Міністерством освіти України, Інститутом Національних Відносин і Політології при Академії Наук України, Міжнародного Товариства «Україна – Ізраїль» та Товариством Єврейської Культури України в серії «Праведники України». «Слово до читачів» написав тодішній президент України Леонід Кравчук.



Зліва на право: А. Веселовський, Д. Кілгур, Е. Єрушалмі

Я. Сусленський, єврейського походження, народився 1929–го року на Одещині. Закінчивши факультет англійської мови Одеського Інституту Іноземних Мов, вчителював у школах України й Молдавії. В 1970–му році був заарештований і засуджений на сім років за «антирадянську агітацію і пропаганду». На засланні був знайомий з багатьма дисидентами, а між ними і з Левком Лук'яненком. Після звільнення виїхав в Ізраїль і там заснував Ізраїльське Товариство Єврейсько–Українських Зв'язків та став його головою.

Презентацію зорганізували Посольство України і Ізраїльська Амбасада в Канаді. Вечір відкрив заступник спікера в палаті депутатів Дейвид Кілгур і в короткім слові наголосив важливість цієї книжки, яка була вже опублікована в єврейській мові в Ізраїлю. Треба подивляти, — казав він — українців, які гинули рятуючи життя євреїв. Особливо підкреслив посвяту митрополита Андрея Шептицького. В книзі є розділ про митрополита Андрея під заголовком «Невизнаний праведник».

Від Посольства України говорив радник–посланник Андрій Веселовський. Найперше він привітав радника–посланника Амбасади Ізраїлю Елі Єрушалмі і подякував українській та єврейській громадам в Канаді за допомогу в організації цього вечора, а панові Кілгурові за факт, що цей вечір відбувається в такім старовиннім і розкішнім оточенні. «Це перша книжка видана в Україні, якої предметом є подати до відома факти про тих українців, які в Другій світовій війні ризикували своїм життям переховуючи і допомагаючи євреям під час німецької окупації України», пояснив він. Пан Веселовський також сказав, що в сучасній Україні євреї становлять другу найбільшу меншину (після росіян), близько 500,000 людей, що входять у всі сфери економії і культури України та багато вкладають у розбудову незалежної України. Ця книжка, сказав він, допоможе розвиткові правдиво дружніх відносин між українцями та євреями в Україні, як і їхнім етнічним групам в Канаді.

Тимчасовий повірений у справах Амбасади Ізраїлю Елі Єрушалмі в імені уряду Ізраїлю подякував тим громадянам України, що їх визнано праведниками (Righteous Among the Nations) дослідчим центром «Яд Вашем» в Єрусалимі. «Ізраїльський народ буде навіки вдячний тим, хто ризикував своїм життям, або і втратив його, рятуючи євреїв», сказав він. Присутність на цьому вечорі канадців українського й єврейського походження піддає надію, що співпрацюючи разом, амбасада з амбасадою, держава з державою, а народ з народом, запевнить, що "Holocaust will never happen again", сказав достойний гість. Після цього пан Кілгур запросив усіх на прийняття, де продовжувалися розмови, знайомства з присутніми євреями та парляментськими інтернами з України, яких прийшло на презентацію біля тридцяти молодих людей.

Знайомтесь: історик з України Сергій Єкельчик

Оля Журба

У вересні 1995 року Сергій Єкельчик, кандидат історичних наук, старший науковий співробітник Інституту Історії України Національної Академії Наук України, став докторантом Відділу Історії і Клясики Альбертського Університету.

Альбертська українська програма стипендій була заснована у 1991 році як визнання значного вкладу українських поселенців в Альберту та відзначення столітнього ювілею українського поселення в Канаді і в Альберті. «Українська присутність в Альберті завжди була відчутною, і це велика честь бути спроможним запрошувати індивідуальностей типу пана Єкельчика. Я цілком певний що його праця дальше закріпить статус Університету Альберти як центру досліджень світової слави» — сказав Джек В. Еді, Міністр Передової Освіти та Розвитку Кар'єри. С. Єкельчик у відповідь сказав: «Я певний, що Університет Альберти є єдиним Західним університетом, що спроможний забезпечити мене бібліотечними ресурсами, наглядом та курсами що я потребую. Це життєво важливо для мого інтелектуального розвитку як історика України та Східної Европи навчатися в Університеті Альберти».

С. Єкельчик народився у 1966 році в Києві. Після закінчення у 1989 році історичного факультету Київського державного університету ім. Т. Шевченка працює в Інституті Історії Української Національної АН України. Займається проблемами історії України XIX – початку XX століть та проблемами теорії історичної науки.

У своєму інтелектуальному формуванні як історик зазнав значного впливу праць покійного І. Лисяка–Рудницького, професора Східно–европейської історії в Альбертському університеті у 1971–1984 роках.

У 1993–94 рр був науковцем–гостем на відділі славістики університету ім. Монаша в Мельбурні, Австралія. Стажування було фінансоване Фундацією українознавчих студій Австралії та Союзом українських організацій Австралії. Перебував у наукових відрядженнях у Франції та Чехії, у 1994 р. брав участь у науковій конференції в Колюмбійському університеті у Нью–Йорку.

Автор численних статтей з історії України XIX – початку XX століть та з історіографії України, а також кількох друкованих історичних оповідань, наприклад, «Роксолан» (нотатки єпископа Вармійського Марціана Кромера, писані ним для себе року Божого 1587–го), опублікованого в книзі «Дерево пам'яті» у 1995 р. та «Літавець», що з'явилось у журналі «Світо–вид» у 1993 році. Під час перебування в Університеті ім. Монаша завершив та підготував до друку книжки «Пробудження нації».

У передмові автор пише, що наприкінці 80–тих років стало можливим відносно вільно і об'єктивно вивчати історію українського національного руху та її сучасні зарубіжні інтерпретації. Почали з'являтися друковані в Україні статті і книжки про розвиток української ідеї, боротьбу за національне визволення, вийшли нові підручники. Значна частина їх намагалася переосмислити історію України серйозно та об'єктивно. Однак жодну із серйозних *проблем* історії дореволюційного українського відродження — проблем, «відрижка» яких дається нам взнаки ще нині — не було проаналізовано, а часом навіть й не названо.

С. Єкельчик успішно закінчив перший рік навчання, одержав з усіх курсів лише найвищі оцінки («9»). Він підготував до публікації кілька нових статтей, у тому числі статтю–рецензію на двотомних «Історичні есе» Івана Лисяка–Рудницького (Київ, 1994). Рецензія мусить з'явитися у торонтському *Journal of Ukrainian Studies*. Буде писати докторську тезу з історії України під керівництвом професора Івана Павла Хімки.

Докторант говорить, що він дуже щасливий з можливості робити докторські студії в Едмонтоні. Альбертський університет, до складу якого входить також Канадський інститут українських студій (КІУС), є тепер найважливішим центром вивчення історії України поза краєм.

Ukraine demands Belarus release detainees

(OMRI/UNKB)—Ukrainian first deputy Foreign Minister Kostyantyn Hryshchenko met with his Belarusian counterpart Valeryi Tsapkala and later with Foreign Minister Uladzimir Syanko in Minsk on May 27 to discuss problems in Ukrainian-Belarusian relations, border demarcation, trade and economic cooperation, Belarusian TV reported the next day.

Hryshchenko demanded that the seven Ukrainians being held in Belarus for their part in the April 26 demonstrations be released, Reuters reported on May 28.

He warned that their continued detention would have a negative effect on Ukrainian-Belarusian relations.

Most of the seven are members of the radical nationalist Ukrainian Self Defense Organization, which supports the former Soviet republics' independence from Moscow as well as Chechnya's independence movement.

The national democratic party Rukh, however, has condemned the actions of UNA-UNSO at the April 26 demonstration.

Citing sources in the Belarusian National Front, Rukh's information agency said that the UNA-UNSO members provoked participants in those areas where they were unable to defend themselves against the attacks of the Belarusian OMON troops.

This, plus recent joint statements signed with leaders of Russian extremist groups leads to the impression that the leaders UNA-UNSO are creating social disorder and destabilizing Ukraine's international relation, said Rukh, wondering in whose interests is UNA-UNSO working?

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Belarusian OMON clash again

(JF Monitor)—An estimated 3,000 pro-independence demonstrators were attacked by OMON police in Minsk, May 30, outside the buildings of the presidential administration, the parliament, and the Internal Affairs Ministry.

The police beat and arrested scores of protesters along their march through central Minsk.

The demonstrators, mostly young, were carrying the national flag of independent Belarus prohibited by President Aleksandr Lukashenka and were chanting slogans in favor of independence and against the president.

They were also demanding that penal proceedings be dropped against two Popular Front leaders, two detained journalists, and seven detained Ukrainians, all facing prosecution in connection with a mass demonstration held April 26 and other anti-presidential protests.

A youth group named the Party of Freedom joined Popular Front activists in spearheading the demonstration, the fourth since Lukashenka and Russian president Boris Yeltsin signed the treaty envisaging the establishment of a Russia-Belarus Community (SSR), reported Reuter, Interfax, and NTV

Belarusian opposition leaders interviewed

By Ustina Markus

(OMRI)—Leading members of the Belarusian Popular Front, Yuriy Khadyka and Vyacheslau Siuchyk, were interviewed on Belarusian TV on May 26.

Both had gone on a hunger strike after being arrested for organizing the April 26 demonstrations in Minsk.

They were released from jail but had to be hospitalized after refusing to eat for a number of days.

Forbidden to travel before their pending trial, Siuchyk and Khadyka said they regarded themselves as political prisoners.

S. Novikau, head of the investigative group looking into the charges against the two men, said the charges include organizing group activities, disrupting public order, and impeding public transport during the demonstrations.

Khadyka and Siuchyk's lawyer, N. Dudarava, defended the men saying they did not organize those activities and were denied the right to see an attorney from the moment of their arrest.

The interviewer compared the April 26 demonstration to the Russian White House siege in 1993 and noted that no one interfered with the judicial process after that event.

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Ukraine gets encouraging support from EU

(JF Monitor)—The European Union's executive trio (comprised of its current, immediate past, and next presiding country) has issued a statement of support for Ukraine's "full integration in the family of European nations" in the name of the Union's 15 member countries.

It said that "Ukraine's independence and territorial integrity are fundamental to Europe's security" and that Ukraine has "achieved significant progress in strengthening democracy."

In expectation of continuing progress, the EU will support Ukraine's accession to the World Trade Organization, will consider Ukraine's request for recognition as a country with a transitional economy (entitling it to facilities in trade with the EU), and will accelerate implementation of the EU-Ukraine partnership and cooperation agreement.

Moroz visits Latvia

(OMRI)—Parliamentary Speaker Oleksandr Moroz began a two-day visit to Latvia on 22 May with a meeting with his Latvian counterpart, Ilga Kreituse. He also held talks with Latvian Saeima deputies and Finance Minister Aivars Kreituss. The next day he addressed the Saeima and urged them to grant citizenship to the Ukrainians living in Latvia, BNS reported. He also held talks with Prime Minister Andris Skele and visited the Ukrainian high school in Riga. Moroz expressed reservations about Latvia's desire to join NATO, noting that although he did not object in principle it was necessary to know the tactical and strategic goals of the NATO expansion.

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Українські Вісті видає дво–тижнево *Едмонтон Лайзергрефикс, Відділ Кенейдієн Криптикс Лтд.* під контрактом із видавцями *Українські Вісті Лтд.* Річна передплата $30.00. Всі права застережені. Не можна репродукувати ніяких матеріялів без писаного дозволу видавця. Опінії висловлені в статтях не все відповідають опінії власника, видавця чи редакційної ради.

Heritage Language Schools beneficial for Alberta trade

Government should take a second look at funding

The Alberta government was far too hasty in passing closure on Bill 24, "The Human Rights, Citizenship and Multiculturalism Act", without proper consultation with the multicultural groups involved.

Though the act was amended, following a public outcry, to include a strong statement for the principle of multiculturalism, its specific measures nevertheless gutted the program insofar as government involvement is concerned. This may be in line with the philosophy of some elements in Alberta's Progressive Conservative caucus who feel that if ethnocultural groups want to have their schools, let them support these schools themselves and not with government funding.

True enough, the $25 per student grant is not a significant factor for most Heritage Language Schools in Alberta and amounts only to five percent of overall funding. A far more serious setback to such schools would be the introduction of private casinos which would compete with existing ones which raise funds for charities. That's the source from which many Heritage Language Schools get the bulk of their funding.

But the point is not whether the $25-per-student grant will have a significant impact on such schools, it is the fact that the government, by its decision to cut all funding to such schools, appears to believe that there is not much value to such schools besides allowing parents to maintain their own particular language and culture — thus it should be strictly their responsibility to maintain theses schools.

But there are many instances in which such schools save taxpayers' money and provide a valuable service for Alberta society as a whole and especially for Alberta business.

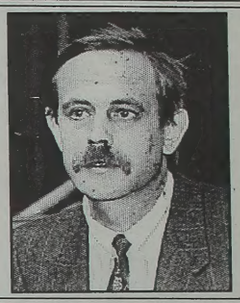
Take the example of the Ivan Franko Ukrainian Junior and Senior High School, which was holding classes right underneath St. John's Auditorium, the day ethnocultural groups held a forum there which prompted the amendments to the act.

First of all, students who graduate from the Ivan Franko School are automatically accredited for Ukrainian 10, 20 and 30 at the provincial high school level. The fact that they already have credits and do not need to take them in high school means that there is an equivalent lowering of the demands upon the provincial educational system, and thus, a saving for Alberta Education. This is a factor which should be taken into consideration.

But more important, the students are not taught the language itself, as they are in provincial high schools, but rather the practical application of it through such courses as Ukrainian history, geography, literature, culture and so on. This gives them an overview of the country and its society which can be very useful skills for those companies wishing to expand trade with Ukraine. In particular, the geography course teaches the students about the location of natural resources in Ukraine, its oil and gas fields and all the proper Ukrainian terminology related to that sector. We could think of many Alberta companies that could use people with that particular knowledge to their benefit.

The Alberta government is just beginning to look at the possibilities of teaching international business languages in the province as a means of promoting international trade. Yet, in many cases, much of what is needed is already being provided by existing Heritage Language Schools. It would be useful for the government to take a second look at Heritage Language School funding precisely with the objective of improving Alberta's international trade.

Не маємо Конституції, бо маємо комуністів



Віталій Шевченко,
Народний Депутат України

Конституційний процес в Україні досягнув апогею. Минулого тижня «температура кипіння» сесійної залі парляменту сягнула межових позначок і пар політичного кипіння мало не зірвав кришку рознуртованого казана, в якому ліва комуністична більшість густо замішує диявольське вариво антидержавности.

Перед тим тимчасова спеціяльна депутатська група завершила доопрацювання конституційного проєкту, максимально врахувавши пропозиції представників депутатських груп і фракцій. На компроміс пішов і Президент, погодившись з багатьма суттєвими поправками. І у вівторок мало відбутися офіційне внесення проєкту Конституції на розгляд парляменту. З самого ранку — пожвавлення, прибуття керівників областей, присутність Президента і уряду в повному складі…

Перебіг подій цього дня може стати сюжетом для гостросюжетної повісти. Спікер парляменту Олександр Мороз зробив усе, аби до обідної перерви не було прийнято жодного рішення. А по обіді комуністи відмовилися реєструватися під надуманим приводом потреби роз'їхатися по округах і «порадитися з виборцями». Колотнеча довкола реєстрації тривала до самого вечора, більше й більше інтригуючи гостей і переповнену журналістську ложу. Інтуїція їм підказувала: щось має статися. А представники 10 фракцій і груп, обмінюючись думками в перемішку з невдалими спробами подолати реєстраційний бар'єр і продовжити сесію, в один голос заявили: пора припиняти обговорення і ухвалювати проєкт Конституції в першому читанні.

Цього разу Олександр Мороз перевершив самого себе, зумівши навіть у програшній ситуації заблокувати сесійну роботу. Був момент, коли на табло спалахнула цифра 278 – рівно стільки, скільки вимагав Регламент (дві третини від числа обраних депутатів). І тоді комуністи, позичивши в сірка очі, обсіли трибуну, не маючи інших аргументів супроти подальшої роботи. Зрештою, О. Мороз домігся нової реєстрації, що засвідчила відсутність кворуму, і оголосив перерву до наступного дня.

Але знову прибув Президент…

Спікер повернувся назад, розуміючи — щось може статися й без нього цього вечора. Але його таки пересиділи. Замість О. Мороза спробував покерувати залою його перший заступник Олександр Ткаченко, авторитет якого у зв'язку з кредитними аферами дорівнює нулю. З боку, певне, було кумедно спостерігати, як він кілька разів оголошував про закінчення роботи і йшов до дверей, але після незграбних тупцювань повертався до керівного крісла, бо депутати сиділи. Не підводився й Президент. Щось має статися?

В очах у деяких комуністів я вдруге побачив страх. Вперше – минулого року, коли йшлося до референдуму про довіру Верховній Раді чи Президентові. Нині, через рік, ситуація повторюється. Комуністи зятято чіплялися за свої місця, побоюючись, що без них більшість парляменту — приблизно 260 депутатів (а для ухвалення простого рішення досить 208 голосів — підпише проєкт Конституції і змусить Л. Кучму призначити всенародний референдум.

Певне, так і сталося б, якби прихильники Конституції стояли до кінця. Бо Президент чекав. З усього Києва збіглася преса. Але десь о дев'ятій вечора дехто з демократів засумнівався, чи не краще все перенести на ранок.

А вранці – знову зрив сесії. І перерва до 4 червня…

Одне втішно: безцеремонні маніпуляції О. Мороза остаточно вивели з терпіння депутатів, і вони виклали підписи про недовіру спікеру. Досі їх *тримали в трьох руках* (націонал–демократи, ліберали і депутати–урядовці притримували свої «пакети», не поспішаючи об'єднувати зусилля), і ось тепер «антиморозівська» більшість сформувалася. Згідно з Регламентом, О. Мороз на два тижні усунеться від ведення сесії до остаточного рішення щодо кандидатури спікера. На жаль, навряд чи вдасться зійтися на комусь іншому, але ймовірно, хоч конституційні питання новий головуючий не бльокуватиме.

Коли читач отримає це число газети, він, можливо, вже знатиме про долю конституційного проєкту. Я ж закінчую цей парляментський звіт у невизначеності. Гадаю, у вівторок або вдасться зламати опір лівих і схвалити Конституцію в першому читанні, або Президент одноосібно оголосить референдум. Президентська прес–служба вже натякнула, що іншого виходу немає…

Новий прем'єр — нові надії?

Павло Лазаренко — 1953 року народження. Українець. Батько 3–х дітей. Випускник Дніпропетровського сільськогосподарського інституту, кандидат сільськогосподарських наук.

Замолоду працював водієм, а після служби в армії та навчання в інституті перебував на керівних постах у сільських господарствах, аж до посади голови агропромислового комплексу — першого заступника голови виконкому Дніпропетровської обласної Ради.

3–го березня 1992 року — представник Президента на Дніпропетровщині. 1994 року переміг на виборах до Верховної Ради та на посаду голови обласної Ради. У вересні минулого року призначений першим віце–прем'єром України. Уряд очолив наступного ж дня після відставки прем'єра Е. Марчука.

Подейкують, що з приходом на Олімп виконавчої влади П. Лазаренка Л. Кучма завершив формування владних структур 3 представників «дніпропетровського кляну». На перший же прес–конференції новопризначений прем'єр–міністр заявив, що програма Леоніда Кучми — єдино вірний для України шлях.

Стрибнув він так високо,
Бо наївся каші,
Яку дехто заварив
Ще на «Південмаші».
Тільки жаль, що у низах
Каша ця не по зубах.

Епіграма Анатолія Янченка
Малюнок Володимира Солонька.

Ukraine-Russia talks stumble over Kremlin intransigence

(JF Monitor/OMRI/INFOBANK)—On his surprise visit to Kyiv, May 23, Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin held two successive sessions of one-on-one talks with his former Ukrainian counterpart, Yevhen Marchuk, and with President Leonid Kuchma.

Lasting eight hours and described as "intense," the talks covered most of the chronic unresolved issues between the two countries: partition of the Black Sea Fleet and the basing of Russia's fleet in Crimea, the long overdue framework treaty, Russian protectionist tariffs against Ukrainian goods, Ukraine's unredeemed share of ex-USSR diplomatic mission buildings abroad, compensation for nuclear missile warheads transferred to Russia, and other unspecified issues.

No documents were signed as Chernomyrdin reportedly did not budge from Moscow's entrenched positions on these issues.

Disagreements still plague the issue of whether Russia can base its share of the Black Sea fleet in Sevastopol, and if Russia will pay Ukraine US$450 million in compensation for giving up its tactical nuclear weapons.

The sides canceled the pre-scheduled press conference at which the results of the talks were to have been announced, reported Interfax-Ukraine, Itar-Tass and Western agencies.

Chernomyrdin was mandated by Russian President Boris Yeltsin to obtain Ukrainian consent to Russia's positions, mainly on the Black Sea Fleet and the interstate treaty, in order to make possible an official presidential visit to Ukraine which the Kremlin regards as politically advantageous just before the presidential election.

The Russian prime minister even proposed June 2 as the date for Yeltsin's visit.

But Chernomyrdin appeared unwilling or unauthorized to yield on policy issues for domestic political gain.

On May 29, during a briefing in the Ukrainian Presidential Administration, the Secretary of the Council of National Security, Volodymyr Horbulin, said Yeltsin would probably visit Ukraine between the first and second rounds of presidential elections in Russia.

Report confirms Sochi "give away"

(The Rukh Insider)—A report recently released by the Ministry of Justice dated February 26 and signed by Minister Serhiy Holovaty confirms an analysis conducted by the Institute of Statehood and Democracy of a number of agreements signed in Sochi last fall between Ukraine's Minister of Defense Valeriy Shmarov and Russia's Minister of Defense Pavel Grachev.

The analysis and the Ministry's report point out that the agreements, which "give away" equipment belonging to Ukraine's Armed Forces free of charge to Russia, allow Russia privileged access to Ukraine's air space and surface transportation and even claim to "enter into force" while ignoring a requirement of ratification by Ukraine's parliament, betray Ukraine's national interests.

Following the Institute's analysis, the Cabinet of Ministers had issued instruction No. 3710/5 dated February 19, 1996 to the Ministry of Justice to provide its conclusions as to the Sochi agreements.

Lviv elections in danger of invalidation

(The Rukh Insider)—On May 28 the Central Election Committee (CEC), headed by Ivan Yemets, decided to submit a request to the General Prosecutor for a review of possible election violations that may have taken place on April 7 in the Levandivsky district No. 262 in Lviv.

On that day Olha Kolinko, a candidate from Rukh for People's Deputy of Ukraine, received an overwhelming 69.6% of the votes cast.

Yemets' decision was clearly politically motivated, since Kolinko had made a name for herself pursuing the illegal business interests of First Deputy Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada Oleksandr Tkachenko as well as Viktor Bozhenar, a former basketball coach and advisor to parliamentary Chairman Oleksandr Moroz.

No serious allegations of impropriety were even considered by the CEC, since an offer of free prizes of coffee, chocolate and the like, made by several local Lviv firms, was open to all who came to vote and therefore allowable under law.

Yemets has proven to be particularly malleable when pressured by Moroz, whose position as parliamentary speaker would receive a serious blow were Kolinko to enter parliament as a People's Deputy.

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Kuchma shakes up Kyiv Administration

(INFOBANK)—President Leonid Kuchma appointed the Deputy Head of the Kyiv State Administration, Olexander Omelchenko, as Acting Head of the Administration, May 21.

According to the presidential decree Omelchenko will be the Acting Head during the sick-leave of current head Leonid Kosakivsky.

The Cabinet of Ministers had appealed to Kuchma with a proposal to dismiss Kosakivsky due to his violation of Ukrainian legislation.

Instead, the President relieved three deputy heads — Mykola Lambutsky, Vladlen Kovtun and Halyna Artyukh.

Kosakivsky has been accused of violating laws regarding the management of city property, the privatization of communally-owned property, and decisions concerning socioeconomic problems facing Kyiv.

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Perry plants sunflowers on missile site

(OMRI)—Russian and U.S. Defense Minister/Secretaries Pavel Grachev and William Perry with their Ukrainian counterpart Valeriy Shmarov traveled to the Pervomaisk missile base in Ukraine and planted sunflowers over a former silo, international agencies reported.

The ceremony marked the removal of all nuclear weapons from Ukraine's territory. Perry said the action will ensure that future generations will live in peace.

Kazakhstan delivered the last of its nuclear weapons to Russia a year ago, while Belarus had delayed transferring the last of its warheads because of financial difficulties.

The U.S. signed an agreement allocating $43 million to help build housing for retired rocket forces.

ALBERTA's UKRAINIAN HOUR is on Edmonton's 630/CHED SUNDAY's at 9 p.m. The program hosted by Robert J.Tomkins features Western Canada's finest Ukrainian Music, Birthday and Anniversary greetings, upcoming events and much more.

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Ukraine officially joins CEI

(INFOBANK)—Ukraine officially became a full member of the Central European Initiative on June 1 in Vienna.

Also admitted that day were Albania, Belarus, Bulgaria and Rumania.

Speaking at the conference Ukraine's Foreign Minister Hennadiy Udovenko pointed out that full membership will expand the cooperation of Ukraine with other states in the region in the areas of transport, communications, science and technology, agriculture, statistics, environmental protection and safety.

This organization was set up in 1989 by Italy, Hungary, Austria and Yugoslavia; at present it includes ten countries.

In addition to the above-mentioned they are Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Croatia, Slovenia, Poland, Macedonia and Bosnia.

Currently the Central European Initiative is engaged in 43 political and economic projects in the Central European region.

Among these is the improvement of navigation on the Danube and the construction of transeuropean highway connecting Triest with Budapest and Kyiv.

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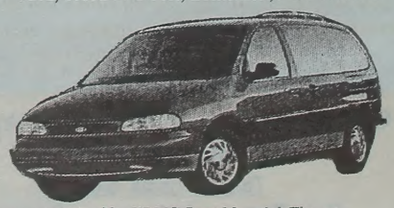

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Newsbriefs

Moroz dismissal attempts fail

(JF Monitor/Infobank)—At an agitated session of the Ukrainian parliament May 28, 171 out of the 422 deputies endorsed a motion to put the removal of Oleksandr Moroz as chairman of the legislature on the agenda, reported Interfax-Ukraine. A vote on the motion, which was spearheaded by reformists, was postponed owing to lack of a quorum. President Leonid Kuchma is known to favor his removal as parliament chairman. Another motion to oust Moroz, submitted on June 4 by by Vyacheslav Chornovil, leaders of Rukh and Taras Protsevyat (Congress of Ukrainian Nationalists), was also defeated.

EU upset with beef ban

(INFOBANK)—The European Union has appealed to Ukraine to reconsider its decision to ban the import of beef from four EU countries because of the fear of "Mad Cow Disease". On May 16 the Chief Veterinary of Ukraine issued an order to ban imports of beef not only from Great Britain, where the disease is centred, but also France, Switzerland and Portugal. The EU protested that officials in Kyiv made this decision without consulting with it.

Ukraine gets another EU tie

(INFOBANK)—On May 29, a session of the European Conference of Transportation Ministers (ECTM) made a decision to include Ukraine in that organization. According to a public relations officer of the Ukrainian Transportation Ministry, Ukraine's membership will accelerate its integration in the European transportation system and allow the country to directly participate in the opening of new transcontinental transportation corridors, the development of tariff policies, as well as the exchange of new technologies.

U.S. ups disarmament aid

(OMRI)—An unidentified U.S. defense official on May 29 said that the U.S. will provide an additional US$43.1 million to Ukraine for its disarmament efforts, Reuters reported. The money would bring U.S. aid to Ukraine under a "Cooperative Threat Reduction" program to $400 million. The money is earmarked for dismantling strategic weapons, cleaning up the missile bases at Pervomaisk and Khmelnytsky, and providing housing for the retired strategic rocket forces.

Rada allocates IMF loan for wages

(OMRI)—The Ukrainian parliament decided on May 23 to allocate part of the most recent tranche (US$900 million) of an IMF loan to pay wage arrears in the country, ITAR-TASS reported. The current debt to workers stands at 177 trillion karbovantsi (US$952,637 million). Although the loan was earmarked for economic reform measures, the wage arrears crisis is viewed as an economic priority.

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World Bank offers US$15.8 million for coal restructuring

(INFOBANK)—The World Bank has offered Ukraine a loan of US$15.8 million for a pilot project designed to help restructure the country's inefficient coal-mining industry.

The three mines selected for the project, Pravda, Krasniy Oktyabr, and Removskaya Mine, are located in Donetsk oblast.

The main aim of the pilot project is to soften possible social and environmental consequences arising from mine closures.

All three mines are unprofitable, since their coal reserves have been almost exhausted and working conditions do not meet safety requirements.

The project aims to provide retraining programs for the affected mine workers.

Loans of up to US$5,000 will be granted for those who are interested in establishing their own businesses and can provide sound business plans. The credits will be made available not only to former mine employees, but also to others in the local communities.

The Coal Pilot Project is a part of an overall plan aimed to address the coal sector's serious problems. Key measures of the action plan include the liberalization of coal prices, elimination of cross-subsidies between mines, corporatization of the coal industry, and measures to improve labor productivity and morale.

In addition, the Coal Restructuring Project includes policy reforms, the closure of over 20 unprofitable mines, social and institutional re-organization, and the renovation of other prospective mines.

By closing unproductive mines, whose maintenance costs $5-6 million per year, the pilot project will help free viable Ukrainian mines to obtain resources for essential replacements and modernizations. Total costs are estimated to $120 million. It is expected that the World Bank will provide a loan of about $80 million to cover this sum.

Total costs of the coal pilot project are estimated at $28.5 million. The Bank loan will finance 55 percent of costs, the government of Ukraine 40 percent, and other donors the remaining five percent.

Coal industry bailout offered

(OMRI/INFOBANK)—Pavlo Lazarenko, Ukraine's new prime minister, announced that his government will allocate another 35 trillion karbovantsi (C$259 million) to bailout the country's troubled coal industry, Ukrainian TV reported on May 30.

He said part of the funds will go toward payment of the government's 38 trillion karbovantsi wage debt to miners, while some Kbv 6 trillion will be used for state coal purchases.

Some 40 mines are on now strike, the largest walkout since employees at 100 mines held strikes in early February demanding payment of back wages.

Coal Industry Minister Serhiy Polyakov said the government plans to shut down 100 unprofitable mines, mainly in Donetsk and Luhansk Oblasts.

He said there are plans to transfer all social facilities and services in the country's coal mining towns to the jurisdiction of local councils.

A day earlier, Lazarenko and the Governor of the National Bank of Ukraine, Victor Yushchenko, sent a joint telegram to commercial banks allowing them to use extra-budget funds transferred to companies under the jurisdiction of the Coal Ministry for the payment of wages to coal miners.

According to the telegram, this is temporary state of affairs and will expire on Sept. 1.

Shpek heads mission to Germany

(INFOBANK)—A Ukrainian delegation, headed by Deputy Prime Minister Roman Shpek, handed over 26 Ukrainian investment projects in which the Ukrainian government invited German firms to participate, during a visit to Bonn, May 30.

During meetings with Germany's federal minister of economics, Guenter Rexrodt, Ukrainian officials were promised that the German government would consider the possibility of moving Ukraine to the German insurance fund Hermes AG's fourth risk group.

Ukraine is currently in the fifth export risk group which carries with it the highest percentage rate and significantly increases the price of exports for Ukrainian consumers.

During a meeting between Shpek and officials from Germany's DASA concern Ukraine's deputy prime minister was told that that German firm was interested in taking part in the reconstruction of the Odesa airport, the updating of Ukraine's aircraft fleet, and the manufacturing of electric locomotives according to German specifications at the PivdenMash (Southern Engineering) plant, as well as the launching of European satellites with the help of Ukrainian rockets from French space centres.

Ukraine keeps top spot in post-Soviet U.S. aid

(INFOBANK)—The United States will continue its current trend of reducing financial aid to Russia and increasing it to other post-Soviet states, says State Department spokesman for aid to newly independent states, Richard Morningstar.

However the overall scope of aid to newly independent states will stay at the 1996 level.

The US State Department addressed Congress with the request to allocate US$640 million to aid for former Soviet republics in 1997 (in 1996 it was $642 million).

Of this amount $173 million is intended for Russia (in 1996 — $163 million) and $183 million for Ukraine (in 1996 - $ 225 million).

According to Morningstar, Ukraine, Russia and Armenia are the main recipients of US aid among the former Soviet republics, the same situation will remain in the next year.

Ukraine submits new oil transit proposal

(INFOBANK)—Ukraine's State Committee for the Oil, Natural Gas and Oil Refinery Industries has submitted a new proposal to Russia's Fuel and Energy Ministry with regard to tariffs for Russian oil transit through the Ukrainian section of the Druzhba pipeline. Ukraine is ready to accept Russia's most recent proposal which is US$4.90 per ton of oil transported over Ukrainian territory under the condition that 19 million tons of oil be pumped through annually. Ukraine's proposal is based on setting tariffs dependant upon the volume of oil pumped through Ukraine for export to European countries. Last year's transit volume — 18 million tons at a rate of $5.20 per ton — will be used as a point of reference. If the transit volume decreases then the rate should increase.

Ukraine signs agreements with Iran

(JF Monitor)—Ukrainian Deputy Prime Minister Anatoliy Kinakh and Iran's economy and finance minister Morteza Mohammad signed May 21 and 22 in Tehran a package of economic agreements. The centerpiece is a trade agreement envisaging barter exchanges of Ukrainian wheat for Iranian oil, thus marking a step forward in Ukraine's efforts to reduce its dependence on Russian oil. Other agreements envisage mutual protection of investments, possible joint industrial ventures based on Ukrainian technology in the aviation and engineering sectors, and mutual settlement of accounts in currencies other than the U.S. dollar in consideration of the U.S. embargo on Iran.

Belarus faulted for fatal balloon shooting

(OMRI)—The International Civil Aviation Organization issued a report blaming Belarus for the downing of a hot air balloon last September that resulted in the deaths of the two pilots, AFP reported on June 5. The American pilots were competing in an international ballooning competition and were shot down by the Belarusian air defense forces while flying over Belarusian territory.

Yeltsin continues to top polls

(JF Prism/JF Monitor)—With Russia's presidential elections only two weeks away, President Boris Yeltsin is maintaining his lead in the polls over his chief opponent, Gennady Zyuganov, leader of the Communist and nationalist alliance.

A Moscow Times-CNN poll published on June 1 gave Yeltsin his largest lead to date, with the support of 32.6 percent of those questioned, and only 19.7 percent for Zyuganov, reported AP.

A poll reported June 2 by the NTV television company gave Yeltsin 35 percent to Zyuganov's 24 percent. The same poll found that, in a second-round runoff, Yeltsin would defeat Zyuganov 46 percent to 30 percent. Asked whom they expected to win, 61.7 percent of respondents said Yeltsin and 17.6 percent said Zyuganov.

While doubt may be cast on the reliability of Russian polls, the impression that Yeltsin really has surged in popularity is supported by a study of changing attitudes among the regional elite. Only a few of Russia's regional leaders have been democratically elected, and most depend for their jobs on the president, so their attitudes are likely to give a reliable indication of who's up and who's down. The study finds that regional leaders who four months ago were expressing cautious neutrality about the possibility of a Yeltsin victory, have now swung massively toward open support of his reelection.

Only the Institute of Sociology of Parliamentarianism, directed by Nugzar Betaneli, maintained that Yeltsin was heading for defeat.

Zyuganov's supporters insisted that the polls underestimated the rural vote and therefore the popularity of their candidate. And some observers warned that the failure of St. Petersburg mayor Anatoliy Sobchak to win reelection in the first round of the gubernatorial election in Russia's second city on May 19 might portend an anti-incumbent vote not only in St. Petersburg but in the country as a whole.

Yeltsin, however, seemed poised for a further surge in the ratings following the May 27 cease-fire agreement with the Chechen leadership. As Yeltsin negotiated a temporary halt to the Chechen fighting, increasing numbers of those who had earlier refused the president their approval announced that they would support him in the contest to ward off a Communist restoration. Presidential candidate Grigoriy Yavlinsky was one of the few who still refused to declare his support.

May 25 saw the expiry of the deadline by which Yavlinsky had said Yeltsin must dismiss his prime minister if he wanted to negotiate an electoral deal. On that day, Yavlinsky publicly declared that he would neither withdraw from the presidential campaign nor accept a post in a future Yeltsin government. Yavlinsky defended himself against claims that he had damaged his electoral chances. In reality, Yavlinsky's image of moral purity had been tarnished by his apparent willingness to bargain with Yeltsin over a government post; as a result, a number of members of the liberal intelligentsia declared that they were switching their support to Mikhail Gorbachev, who had never compromised with Yeltsin.

Newsbriefs

Kyiv cuts power to Crimea

(JF Monitor)—The central authorities in Kyiv reduced the supply of electric power to Crimea May 28, saying the peninsula was in arrears on its fuel bills. Crimea is almost totally reliant on the mainland for electricity and fresh water. If power cuts continue, they will reduce Crimea's attraction as a tourist resort and hit its income from this source, thereby increasing its dependence on the central authorities.

Crimea wants Moscow embassy

(OMRI)—Crimea's parliament added to its agenda the issue of opening an embassy in Moscow due to the peninsula's increasing trade with Russia, ITAR-TASS reported on May 29. According to Crimea's Trade Ministry, exports to Russia account for almost half of all Crimean exports to CIS countries, while imports from Russia make up 41% of Crimea's total imports.

Crimean Rada passes budget

(OMRI)—Crimean lawmakers have approved a budget for this year totaling 62 trillion karbovantsi ($462 million), UNIAN reported on May 22. The new budget allocates 4.2 trillion karbovantsi ($30 million) for the resettlement of Crimean Tatars and other deported peoples on the peninsula.

Ukraine, Russia to coordinate WTO approach

(INFOBANK)—Ukraine and Russia have signed an agreement to develop a coordinated policy to prevent antidumping measures against Ukraine in the European and American markets, and to promote cooperation with the European Union's economic structures and other international organizations while joining the World Trade Organization.

The agreement was signed in Moscow on May 27, by the Russia's Minister of Foreign Economic Relations, Georgy Gabunia and the Ukraine's Deputy Minister of Foreign Economic Relations and Commerce, Victor Hladush.

According to the agreement, the Ministries will exchange information regarding national foreign economic legislation, as well as statistic data.

In addition, the agreement provides for meetings of heads of Ukraine's and Russia's Foreign Economic Ministries to be conducted an a regular basis (at least twice a year).

Yeltsin appoints new Ambassador

(OMRI)—Russian President Boris Yeltsin has dismissed Ambassador to Ukraine Leonid Smolyakov from his post and replaced him with one of Moscow's most experienced diplomats, Yuriy Dubinin, Russian media reported on May 24. Dubinin, 65, who will retain his current post of deputy foreign minister, has been special ambassador for negotiations with Ukraine since 1992. In the diplomatic service since 1955, Dubinin previously held ambassadorial posts in Spain (1978-86), the U.S. (19861990), and France (1990-91). The appointment of a deputy foreign minister as ambassador in Kyiv may signal that Moscow wants to work even harder to resolve continuing difficulties with Ukraine over the Black Sea Fleet and other issues.

Cabinet wants tax service reformed

(INFOBANK)—Ukraine's Cabinet of Ministers has submitted a bill to Parliament which proposes reforming the General State Tax Inspection into the State Tax Committee of Ukraine which would be managed directly through the Cabinet of Ministers. Currently the tax inspection is subordinate to the Ministry of Finance.The bill also holds individuals legally responsible for the use of force against tax inspection workers on the job and provides for tighter cooperation between tax and internal affairs agencies. The bill's authors say such measures are necessary since, in the last two years, 348 violent acts against tax inspection workers were committed.

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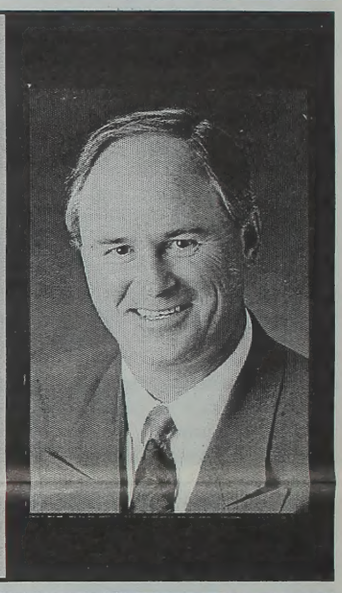

Newsbriefs

Ukraine plans Cuba investments

(INFOBANK)—Sources in Ukraine's Foreign Affairs Ministry have told Infobank that on May 27 the head of Ukraine's presidential administration, Dmytro Tabachnyk, held talks with representatives of Cuba's Foreign Affairs and Tourism Ministries regarding possible Ukrainian investments in the construction of tourist complexes in Cuba. Tabachnyk was interested in the Cuban Republic's investment legislation and the division of profits at different stages of investment. He visited several tourist complexes in the province of Matensas.

Russian trains rerouted

(OMRI)—Russian passenger trains bound for popular Black Sea resorts like Sochi will be rerouted this summer to avoid passing through Ukraine, ITAR-TASS reported on May 30. Beginning on June 2, most trains heading to the Russian Black Sea coast from Moscow and points north will be routed through Voronezh in order to avoid lengthy delays caused by customs and passport controls at the Russian-Ukrainian border, which had to be crossed twice on the previous route. Railway Ministry officials said the new route will take less time, even though it is longer.

New police commander

(INFOBANK)—President Leonid Kuchma has appointed Col. Volodymyr Povazhniuk commander of Ukraine's police forces. Until now he worked as deputy commander. Col. Povazhniuk will replace Lieut. Gen. Volodymyr Borysenko.

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Концерт на пошану Франка відбувся вдруге в УНО

Ольга Яремко

140 років назад «на горбі край села» Нагуєвичів в Дрогобиччині в родині заможного і свідомого селянина – ремісника народився хлопчик з рудавим волоссям, якому судилося стати Розумом нації.

Франко народився і формував свій світогляд в епоху панування доктрини позитивізму, раціоналізму, соціялізму і анархізму, в епоху пропаганди таких ідолів, як Маркс і Бунін, які віщували про земний рай, здобутий еволюційним шляхом.

Нарід повірив в свого Мойсея, і скала впала. В подяку за це, ми передаємо нашим потомкам, його вказівки, вчимось розуму від нього.

Таким лейкмотивом було відновлення публічних концертів, організованих на протязі останніх двох років силами відділу ОУК–УНО в Едмонтоні, під патронатом Конгресу Українців Канади, едмонтонського відділу. Другий концерт з черги 1996 року відбувся 11 травня в залі УНО з участю хору «Дніпро» гурту «Барвінок», дитячої драмстудії «Джерело» і виступу Сергія Скрябіна.

Хор «Дніпро» виконав гимн «Вічний революціонер» на музику М. Лисенка, «Ой вербо, вербо кучерява» народня пісня в обробці композитора В. Кікти і «Ніч, яка місячна» – народня пісня в обробці композитора Євгена Козака. Соло виконав до цієї пісні Тарас Закордонський.

Фото: І. Цибульський

Гурт «Барвінок». Зліва на право: Віктор Родюк, Оксана і Федір Гоцуляки

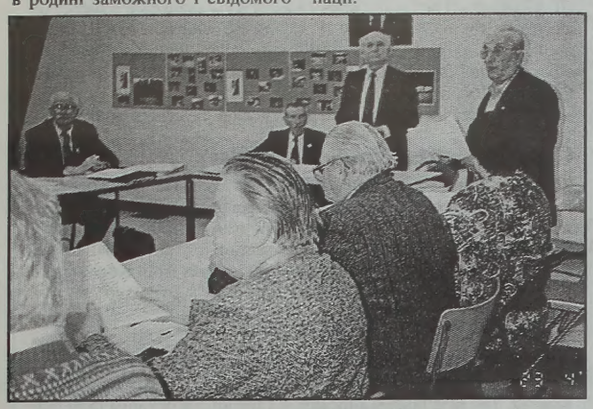
Дитяча студія «Джерело» передала пафос І. Франка до розуміння дитячої психіки, за творами «Киця», «Лисичка Кума», «Малий Мирон».

Сергій Скрябін легко і з гумором прочитав казку Франка «Ріпка». І це було добре відчутне на обличчах наших наймолодших глядачів.

Вміле ведення програми концерту господарем Романом Британом допомогло всім присутнім заглибитись в геніяльну творчість поета, починаючи від ранньої юнацької лірики, кінчаючи драматичними і публіцистичними творами.

Іванна Шевчук в своїй доповіді розказала про пророчі слова поета в яких він застерігав нас про наближення нової формальності, основаної на догмах ненависті, клясової боротьби, творення марксистської держави з величезною владою над життям і долею мільйонів людей.

Гурт «Барвінок» виконав пісні на слова І. Франка: «Гей січ іде», музика Ярославенка, «Як почуєш у ночі», музика Д. Січинського. І закінчено концерт національним гимном «Не пора, не пора, не пора!»



Загальні Збори едмонтонського відділу КУК. Сидять (зліва на право): д–р П. Кіт, С. Романюк, стоїть П. Саварин (предсідник) і В. Марич (секретар).

Загальні Збори Едмонтонського КУК

П. Саварин

Загальні Збори едмонтонського відділу КУК відбулися 23 квітня 1996 р. в Пластовому Домі.

Вибрано нову Управу в наступнім складі: Оля Саварин, голова, Степан Романюк, 1–й заступник, Орест Котишин, 2–й заступник, Станислав Кобилко, попередній голова, Володимир Марич, секретар, д–р Павло Кіт, скарбник. До Контрольної комісії були вибрані: Володимир Багнюк, д–р Богдан Клід і Михайло Дмишко.

О. Саварин, попросила о співпрацю організацій, на святкування 5–річчя незалежности України, що заплановане на суботу 24–го серпня ц.р. в Парку Гавреляка, пополудні. Україна як фенікс із попелу появилася на картах світу після сотень літ поневолення, то ж є чим радіти і що святкувати. Понад 160 держав досі визнало її, а Канада була першою зі західних держав, що привітала її відродження.

Після загальних зборів КУК відбулися збори харитативного рамени КУК. Керував ними Станислав Кобилко, як голова. Після відчитання протоколу із попередніх сходин (О. Саварин) і звіту скарбника (д–р П. Кіт) на внесок В. Багнюка, голови Контрольної Комісії КУК, Станислава Кобилко перевибрано на голову, Степана Романюка на заступника, Михайла Блавацького на секретаря, д–ра Павла Кота на скарбника і Марусю Пастушенко, члена. Контрольна Комісія остається та сама що в КУК.

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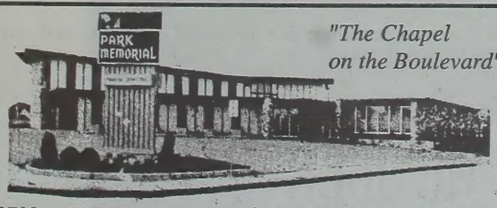

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До нової Станичної старшини були вибрані: Радомир Білаш, станичний, Ксеня Скрипник–Бубель, заступниця, Люба Бойко–Бел, секретар, Дарія Васараб–Роленд, скарбник, Надя Цинцар, бібліотекарка, Орися Родинюк, помічниця бібліотекарки, Петро Саварин, пресовий референт, Оля Саварин, представниця до КУК, Віра Кунда, Мирон Стефанів і ст. пл. Марійка Стадник, Рада чести. До Провірної комісії були вибрані: Юрій Котович, Андрій Горняткевич і Тарас Боцюрків.

До нової управи Осередку Праці УПС були вибрані: Марія Дитиняк, осередкова, Софія Скрипник, заступниця і Оленка Плохій, секретар.

Деталь зі Загальних Зборів Пластової Станиці в Едмонтоні. 1–ший ряд, зліва направо: Ксеня Бубель, Дарія Васараб–Роленд, Михайло Саварин (уступаючий станичний), Радомир Білаш, станичний і Міко Грох, зв'язковий.

Появилася книжка Івана Кейвана, *Українські мистці поза Батьківщиною*

Іван Кейван, *Українські мистці поза Батьківщиною*, 227 стор., видавництво «Кліо», Монреаль 1996, спіральне переплетення, ціна $25.00.

Ця книжка покійного українського маляра і мистецького критика з'явилася друком завдяки старанням його родини, а передусім дружини Марії Адріяни Кейван. У рукописній спадщині Івана Кейвана залишається повна *Історія українського мистецтва*, написана ще в той час, коли об'єктивна історіографія була неможливою в умовах України. Видати цю колосальну працю було б посильно хіба що котромусь із Інститутів українських студій, а тимчасом вирішено опублікувати тільки ту частину зібраних автором матеріялів, які зовсім невідомі в Україні. Отже книжка ця адресована читачам в Україні – але не тільки їм.

Один тільки «Покажчик прізвищ», перечислених у праці Івана Кейвана, займає 18 сторінок – а це переважно прізвища українських мистців, що жили і творили, або й сьогодні ще живуть, у країнах чотирьох континентів поза межами України – в Европі, Північній та Південній Америках і в Австралії. Хронологічно книжка охоплює період від кінця тридцятих до вісімдесятих років, а в поодиноких випадках сягає навіть початку століття. Навряд чи забув покійний мистецький критик згадати хоч одного українця діяспори, який не був би заанґажований у тій чи іншій царині образотворчого мистецтва. Усім їм критик дав стислу і влучну характеристику, згадавши велику кількість цікавих біографічних даних, а в багатьох випадках доповнив розповідь унікальними особистими спогадами.

ПОВІДОМЛЕННЯ

Книжку покійного українського мистця й історика мистецтва Івана Кейвана *«Українські мистці поза Батьківщиною»*, можна замовити пишучи на адресу:

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First Vohon Festival a success

Over 700 performers from 24 groups participate

An estimated 3,000 - 4,000 people attended the first ever Ukrainian Festival, presented by the Vohon Ukrainian Dance Ensemble at Broadmoor Lake Park in the Edmonton suburb of Sherwood Park, May 25.

The festival, which was held in order to raise funds for Vohon's upcoming tour of Australia, was a tremendous success, according to its organizers, and may become an annual event.

"My train of thought is that we will have another festival," said Mike Guryn, president of Vohon.

"We will do everything to promote Ukrainian culture to the best of our abilities," he added.

Guryn said the festival, which was first suggested at a breakfast meeting by an official from the County of Strathcona, who told members of the Vohon organization that the county had a facility it could offer for such a festival.

The festival took nine months of preparation.

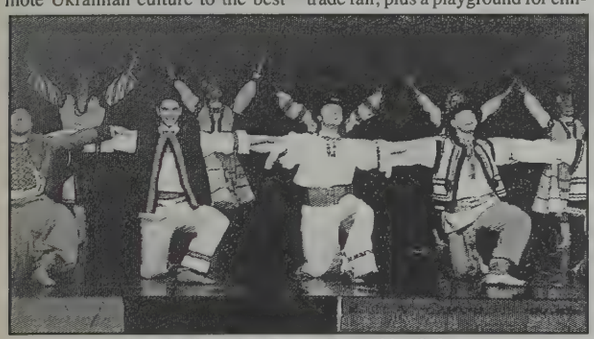
Over 700 performers from 24 different groups in Alberta, British Columbia and Saskatchewan appeared at the festival.

As well there were 37 displays of arts and crafts as well as other Ukrainian services and products in the trade fair, plus a playground for children, and Ukrainian food was available at various kiosks.

Guryn said this was an especially popular feature for parents.

The day's events finished with a dance at which Vohon gave a special presentation — fireworks and all.

Among the groups performing at the festival were; the Yalenka Ukrainian Dancers, Prince George, B.C.; the Voloshky Ukrainian Female Trio, Saskatoon, Sask.; Aurora Ukrainian Dancers, Fort McMurray; Tryzub Ukrainian Dance Ensemble, Calgary; Westlock Ukrainian Dancers; the Veselli Ukrainian Dancers of Gibbons; the Red Deer Ukrainian Dance Club; the Locher Family, Vegreville; the Malanka Dancers, Lloydminster; Ukrainian Bilingual Schools, Sherwood Park; Grande Prairie Ukrainian Dancers; Veselka Dancers, Lamont, and from Edmonton: St. Basil's dancers, Ukrainian Clown Vuiko Rudyi Panko, the Heruvymy Ukrainian Female Quartet, the Dnipro Chorus, Vohon; St. Andrew's School of Ukrainian Dance, the Verkhovyna Ensemble, St. Michael's Ukrainian Dancing, the Edmonton School of Ukrainian Dance; Paul Begoray, and Tsvit Paporoti Ukrainian Female Choir.



Tryzub Ukrainian Dance Ensemble, Calgary

Vohon performing the Hopak

Edmonton School closes its year at Festival

By Marco Levytsky

The Edmonton School of Dance closed off its 1995-1996 year with a brilliant performance at Festival Place in Sherwood Park, to cap off the Ukrainian Festival, May 26.

All four levels of the school participated along with the Vohon Ukrainian Dance Ensemble, who appeared as guest artists.

The Edmonton School is the principal feeder group for Vohon.

A key element of this year's concert was the first half which featured a choreographic tour of Ukraine built around the travels of a Canadian Ukrainian couple who tour the countryside in a dilapidated Soviet-made car (which provides for some interesting sight gags on its own).

Artistic Director Ken Kachmar's story line allowed the school to feature various regional dances of Ukraine, along with the colourful and exquisite costumes that are part of the show.

Many light moments were provided, including the plane trip, the customs official at Keiv (sic) airport with the ever-present outstretched hand and a hilarious sequence in which the female member of the couple (Debbie Kachmar) overindulges.

(Incidentally, though "Keiv" may be the closest to how Canadians of Ukrainian origin are most likely to pronounce the name of Ukraine's capital, there is a now an official spelling — Kyiv.)

Several numbers made up the second half including a lyrical Zaporozhets-Mavky (woodnympth) dance by Vohon and a twirling Hutsulka by the senior level.

Vohon closed off the show with their energetic Hopak.

But when it comes to the Hopak, the senior level are no slouches either. Their version features a segment in which the boys hurl dancer Neil Drouin into mid-air where he performs a split. Considering the age level of the dancers is 13-15, this is no mean accomplishment.

The senior level of the Edmonton School of Dance performing

Left to Right: Melita Zubritsky and Elsie Kawulych representing the Vegreville Pysanka Festival at their booth at Vohon's Ukrainian Festival.

Hopak in the Park promises excitement

The Alberta Ukrainian Dance Association presents an action-packed weekend of whirling colours, energetic grace, and breathtaking acrobatics with their Hopak In the Park Festival, June 14 - 16, to an expected audience of 5,000 people.

Edmonton's three premiere Ukrainian Dance Ensembles, Cheremosh, Shumka, and Volya will perform with Ottawa's Svitanok Ensemble and other special guests in the Dance Extravaganza June 14 at 7:30 pm at the Heritage Amphitheatre in Hawrelak Park.

In addition to the dance Extravaganza, festival events include a Dance Festival for younger groups and schools (June 15), a Zabava (party) After the Park (June 15) and a Father's Day Brunch & Ukrainian Cultural Trade Show (June 16).

The Hopak In the Park Festival is a special event in support of the Alberta Ukrainian Dance Association, a non-profit provincial service organization that serves over 3,000 Ukrainian dancers and hundreds of Ukrainian dance schools throughout Alberta.

Ticket prices vary for festival events and range from $5 -13. Tickets are available at the Ukrainian Bookstore, Alberta Ukrainian Dance Association Office and Tomkins Travel.

Call (403) 426-4329 of tickets or more information.

Cheremosh dancer does a split at last year's Hopak in the Park

Pysanka concerts to have new look

Concert performances at the Pysanka '96 Festival in Vegreville will have a new look this year.

There will be seven performances at the festival — two on Friday, three Saturday and another two on Sunday.

Included among the scheduled performer are such groups as Sopilka, Vitrak, Mitelka, Dunai, Hoosli, Volya, Veselka and Shumka. The performances will be held at the Multiplex.

The Official Opening Ceremonies will now be part of the new concert format on Friday.

The festival will be held July 5-7.

Youth talent competitions, the main focus of the festival, have been expanded to include a non-competitive open category. Being the last event for the summer this competition is considered to be the pinnacle event for Ukrainian dance.

The Youth Talent Awards will recognize special attributes of Ukrainian culture. This year's list includes: Dan Chomlak, Veselka, Orest Olineck, Hergot, Cheremosh, Shumka and the Hospodar and Hospodynia Grand Aggregate.

There will also be pioneer demonstrations, a Ukrainian Music Jamboree with its annual recognition of Ukrainian Canadian Music Pioneers, folk art sales and displays at the Social Centre, Pioneer Ukrainian Family Recognition, a Beer Garden and the Pysanka Festival Dance. Performing at the dance will be Charka, Melody Tones and the Cimmarons.

The International Egg decorating Competition has been revised to provide a better distribution of activity and prize money.

Several food outlets will provide Ukrainian fare, such as borscht, holubtsi, varenyky and kobasa and well as North American fast food.

Four students chosen as parliamentary interns

Four students of Ukrainian heritage from across Canada arrived in the nation's Capital recently to begin their summer jobs - working for Members of Parliaments. Monica Sirski (Winnipeg), Matthew Goodman (St. Catherine's), Andrew Hrycaj (Montreal) and Christopher Sturby (Saskatoon), are now working for the Independent Calgary MP Jan Brown, Beaches-Woodbine MP Maria Minna, St. Boniface MP Ron Duhamel, and the Minister of Environment Sergio Marchi, respectively.

Within previous years, MPs from various parties have accepted our interns, such as: Chris Axworthy (NDP), Alan Redway (PC), Herb Grey (Lib), Jim Edwards (PC), Christine Stewart (Lib), Mac Harb (Lib), David Kilgour (Lib), Garry Breitkreuz (Reform), Elsie Wayne (PC), and Admiral Fred Mifflin (Lib) just to name a few.

The Ukrainian Canadian Congress established the Parliamentary Student Internship Program in 1988 as a proactive approach in providing a program that would contribute to and complement the students' future academic studies and their involvement within an organized Ukrainian Canadian context. However, recent years have shown the number of students participating declining due to financial constraints.

Anyone requiring further information about the program, may do so, by contacting the Ukrainian Canadian Congress - Ottawa Bureau, 350 Albert St., Suite 328, Ottawa, Ont. K1R 1A4, tel. (613) 235-8214; fax: (613) 235-8221.

Beniuk jumps to Tories

Edmonton Norwood MLA Andrew Beniuk became the latest member of the Alberta Progressive Conservative caucus on May 23.

Beniuk, who was first elected as a Liberal in the 1993 general election, made the announcement at a press conference with Government Whip Stan Woloshyn.

In a statement released to the press Beniuk, who had been sitting as an Independent since his dismissal from the Liberal caucus last year, said that, during the election, he campaigned on fiscal responsibility, education and job re-training — "policies advocated by both the Decore Liberals and the Klein Conservatives, and implemented by Premier Klein and his team."

Andrew Beniuk

"While I might have continued to represent the people of Edmonton Norwood as an independent, I think it is necessary to send a message theat teamwork is crucial in ensuring the people's business is accomplished," he added.

"That is the reason I had a falling-out with the Liberal Party in the first place — the back-stabbing of the current leadership of that group does not serve anyone's constituents well.

"I am also very supportive of this government's commitment to multiculturalism and feel that I am better able to represent my constituents in this regard as a member of the government caucus," said Beniuk.

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Education remains priority, Zlenko states at fundraiser

(UkrNews)—Despite financial difficulties, education continues to remain one of the priorities of Ukraine's internal policy, says Anatoliy Zlenko, Ukraine's Ambassador to the United Nations.

Speaking at the Kyiv Konnection '96 fundraising banquet in Edmonton, May 30, Zlenko said education in Ukraine is no longer indoctrinated and monopolized and there are state institutions as well as private ones.

However, education shares the problems that the economy is going through — the most difficult being financing, Zlenko added.

"The debt of the state to the universities causes delays in the salary payment, which results in the feeling of instability and insecurity among the professors.

"But we hope that these difficulties are temporary ones. Young people are eager to get education. The national economy is interested in highly qualified specialists. So the continuation of market reforms finally will put everything in its proper place and the position of the professor of the university will become as prestigious as the chief executive officer of a company or bank," he said.

A capacity crowd of over 300 attended the banquet, organized by the Ukrainian Foundation for College Education, as a fundraiser for the National University of the Kyiv-Mohyla Academy (NaUKMA) n Ukraine.

Fundraising banquets in 1994 and 1995 have already raised over C$24,000 for the Kyiv Mohyla Academy.

Funds raised by the UFCE helped sponsor the new Job and Career Centre at the NaUKMA and facilitate staff exchanges between the Academy and Grant MacEwan Community College (GMCC) in Edmonton.

This year, four faculty members from the NaUKMA participated in these exchanges — Dr. Olena Kurovska and Larisa Fedoraytenko in teaching English as a business language and Dr. Sophia Pokhodnia and Natalia Shumkova in administration. All except Dr. Pokhodnia, who has already returned to Ukraine, were present at the banquet and spoke about the work of NaUKMA.

Master of ceremonies for the evening was Bill Pidruchney, while Dr. Albert Hohol, president of the UFCE gave the opening remarks.

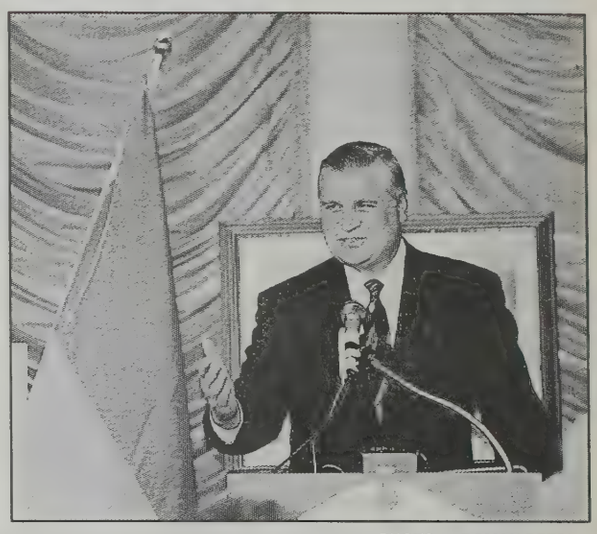


PHOTO — ROMAN PETRIW

Ambassador Zlenko speaking at the Kyiv Konnection '96 banquet

Greetings were delivered by: John Loney (MP Edmonton North) for the government of Canada, Andrew Beniuk, MLA for Edmonton Norwood and the most recent addition to the Progressive Conservative caucus for the government of Alberta and Councillor Larry Langley for the city of Edmonton.

Dr. Sherry Rainsforth talked about the Grant MacEwan connection with NaUKMA.

A cheque for $5,000 was presented by Larry Len for Telus Corp., official sponsor of the banquet.

Zlenko arrived in Edmonton May 29 and the following morning toured GMCC then spoke at a business luncheon, where he said Ukraine is working to overcome legislative roadblocks to foreign investment.

"We realize that the reason for the small amount of foreign investment into the economy of Ukraine was the result of instability which is now, to a great extent, overcome," he said.

"With a view to improve the situation in this sphere, the President of Ukraine issued a decree pertaining to the establishment of the Ukrainian State Credit Investment Company which will promote foreign investment to the priority areas, in particular to the energy sector, oil and chemistry industries, coal industry, agriculture, transport and communications."

Before departing May 31, Zlenko met with officials from Federal and Intergovernmental Affairs and Alberta Economic Development.

New scholarship to support Ukrainian Studies

(CFUS)—A $4,000 scholarship for university students concentrating in Ukrainian Studies has been announced by the Canadian Foundation for Ukrainian Studies.

The scholarship is intended for student in a four-year course leading to the degree of Bachelor of Arts (or its equivalent) at a Canadian university.

Students entering the second year of studies will be eligible to apply. The successful applicant will be granted $1,000 for the second year. A further $1,250 will be granted that student for the third year, and $1,750 for the fourth year of studies, provided some aspect of Ukrainian Studies remains an important part of courses taken, and a satisfactory grade level is maintained.

The scholarship, named the "Canadian Foundation for Ukrainian Studies Presidents' memorial Scholarship", was created by the Foundation to honor its presidents who have since passed away. These are the late Stanley Frolick, John Stashuk, and Walter Surma Tarnopolsky.

In announcing the scholarship, the foundations' president, Myroslav Diakowsky said:

"This scholarship continues what the Foundation has done over the years in support of Ukrainian Studies. We believe that Ukrainian Studies remain as important as ever for us as a Ukrainian community here in Canada, for Canada, and also for Ukraine.

"What is more, the state of Ukrainian Studies at Canadian universities is also an important indicator of the position and status of Ukrainians as a group in this country."

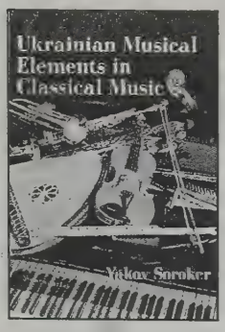
Founded in 1975 as a separate body by members of the Ukrainian Canadian Professional and Business Federation, the Foundation ha raised funds for Ukrainian Studies in Canada, although the effect of its activities have also been felt elsewhere. In Canada it has provided support at such universities as those of Toronto, Manitoba, Alberta, and at York University.

It is also widely known for funding the publication of the English-language five-volume *Encyclopedia of Ukraine* a project on which it collaborated with the Shevchenko Scientific Society (Sarcelles, France, and the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (University of Alberta, Edmonton). In addition, it has also provided financial support to help initiate the forthcoming publication of Mykhailo Hrushevsky"s epic *History of Ukraine-Rus'* in English translation as well as to aid in the production of NOVA, an innovative methodology for use in schools to teach Ukrainian to children who have not learned the language at home.

Ukrainian Musical Elements in Classical Music

Yakov Soroker

This monograph is the first comprehensive account of the influence of Ukrainian motifs on the classical music of Europe and Russia from the eighteenth century through the first half of the twentieth. Going beyond earlier, fragmentary treatments that considered direct Ukrainian borrowings by composers, Yakov Soroker analyzes Ukrainian elements in the musical language of the composers and regions under study. Beginning with a survey of the modes, melodies and rhythms characteristic of Ukrainian folk music, Soroker discusses the role of these elements in the works of the Viennese classical school, nineteenth-century German, Austrian and Hungarian composers, Frédéric Chopin and later Polish composers, Béla Bartók, and Russian composers, including Musorgsky, Tchaikovsky, Rimsky-Korsakov, Rakhmaninov and Prokofiev, and lesser lights such as Khandoshkin, Serov and Kabalevsky.



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Toronto hosts first major Canada-Ukraine trade show

By Nina Romas,
Canada-Ukraine Monitor

From April 29 - May 3, almost a full five years after Ukraine's declaration of independence, Canada finally hosted its first Ukrainian Trade Show. At the initiative of Kozlova Enterprises Inc. of Winnipeg, the Metro Toronto Convention Centre saw over 200 participants from Ukraine manning some 50 booths and tables. They included directors of large and medium size Ukrainian companies and enterprises, heads of Ukrainian financial and insurance institutions, Ukrainian regional government officials, businessmen and women representing public and private companies, ranging in age and experience from young eager entrepreneurs to seasoned experts from another era.

The ambitious five day program of Ukraine and Partners XX-XXI was the result of much hard work by Lioudmilla Kozlova and Ihor Zaks, President and Chairman, respectively, of Kozlova Enterprises. Shortly after their arrival in Canada in the early 1990's, they put their years of business experience and understanding of conditions in Ukraine and other Eastern European countries to practical use, establishing Kozlova Enterprises Inc. Their objective was to assist Ukrainian and other Eastern European companies to market their products in North America, as well as vice versa: to show North Americans the way to the East European markets. After only a few short years in Canada, the trade show became a concrete example of their seriousness and determination to achieve this objective.

The program of trade show consisted of three components: a half-day seminar "Doing Business in North America" for the participants from Ukraine, and a two-day conference "Doing Business in Ukraine", and, running concurrently, the actual four-day trade show itself, "Ukraine and Partners XX-XXI".

The first day started with a seminar geared at introducing the Ukrainian delegation to the peculiarities of doing business in North America in general, and Canada in particular. Eleven experts addressed such questions as import-export procedures, taxation laws and the rules of competition. The speakers included representatives of the Canadian federal and provincial governments, private enterprise, as well as the Ukrainian Trade and Economic Mission to Canada.

April 30 saw the opening of the Trade Show. The products and services displayed in the booths and at the tables ranged from a wide variety of sectors, from industry and service to government structures, and represented many regions of Ukraine. Construction, metallurgy, fishing, liquor, medical industries, banks, insurance companies, advertising and publishing, as well as tourism — the Ukrainians eagerly put their best forward. Canadian exhibitors included Petro Canada, private companies, provincial booths, media, and the Canada-Ukraine Chamber of Commerce.

A major highlight was the two-day conference, where 32 speakers - 23 Ukrainians, eight Canadians, and one American - gave their advice and shared their experiences and expertise with Canadians looking in the direction of Ukraine. One by one, they analyzed various aspects of Ukraine's rocky road to reform and the obstacles that have stalled economic progress. And despite these complications on the Ukrainian side, all unanimously agreed that Canadian entrepreneurs have been slow and extremely cautious in responding to Ukraine's potential.

Following a greeting from Ukrainian Ambassador Volodymyr Furkalo, the program proceeded, including speeches by experts from both Canada and Ukraine. Jaroslav Kinach, resident representative of Ukraine in European Bank for Reconstruction and development spoke on the topic of fiscal and monetary policies in Ukraine; lawyer Mark Kovalsky analyzed the legal framework for doing business in Ukraine; Ihor Yushko, general manager of First Ukrainian International Bank explained the financial framework for foreign investment in Ukraine, James Temertey, President of Northland Power, and Victor Pergat, Director for Northland Power in Ukraine, spoke of their experience in the energy sector. Ukrainian laws on foreign investment were reviewed by Danylo Kourdelchouk, president of Ukrainian Bar Association, who also discussed the ramifications of the new law "Foreign Investment in Ukraine" adopted on March 19. Ihor Sanin, head of Ukraine's Economic and Trade Mission to Canada, addressed the priorities and potential of Canada-Ukraine trade, while Roman Hruby, Trade Commissioner (DFAIT Canada) explained the government's role in business development in Ukraine.

At the end of the first day of the Conference, Sen. Stanley Haidasz addressed the participants of the Trade Show and Conference. Reading a speech on behalf of Canada's Minister of Foreign Affairs Lloyd Axworthy, Sen. Haidasz announced that, in addition to the already-scheduled visit by Art Eggleton this fall, both the Foreign Minister and Defence Minister of Defence David Collenette, were to be travelling to Ukraine in the upcoming months. Unfortunately, the early-June trip by Axworthy has since been postponed due to unforeseen circumstances; however, the probability of a fall visit by Collenette looks promising at this time.

From left to right: Senator Stanley Haidasz, Volodymyr Furkalo, Ukrainian Ambassador to Canada

Business

The Ukrainian participants in the trade show demonstrated a little bit of everything Ukraine has to offer.

Among the representatives of the metallurgic industry was the long-established "Zaporizhstal" plant, founded in 1933, with products currently being exported to the South-eastern Asian countries, Europe and other regions.

The joint-stock company "Ukrlakofarba" has been in its business for 40 years. Today it is a private company and owns nine paint manufacturing plants (six of which represented at the show), producing more than 80% of the products in their industry.

For more than 40 years the "Zaporyzhya" high-voltage plant has been supplying its electrotechnical equipment to markets around the world. This enterprise is distinguished by its advanced technologies and modern equipment.

The "Yuzhelectromash" enterprise was the biggest electromotor producers in the former Soviet Union. The plant has been in operation for 30 years and today has become part of the joint venture "Newkon-Yuzhelectromash" (Toronto - Nova Kakhovka). Its products are exported to countries throughout the world, including Germany, France, Italy, Australia, Brazil, India, and Egypt. "Newkon-Yuzhelectromash" had the distinction of being the largest exporter of optical equipment in the former Soviet Union. Their specialties include binoculars, telescopes, night vision equipment, cameras, lenses. This company, 95% of whose production was once geared towards the military, is an excellent example of the conversion miracle, having effectively transformed its 'civilian' production up to 90%

From left to right: Igor Zaks, Chairman, Kozlova Enterprises Inc., Winnipeg; Volodymyr Furkalo, Ukrainian Ambassador to Canada; Ihor Yushko, General Manager, First Ukrainian National Bank.

"Dniproshina" is the biggest Ukrainian producer of tires for trucks, cars, tractors, buses and motorcycles, including names familiar to Canadians, "Volvo" and "Mercedes". Its products have already appeared at trade shows in Britain, France, Germany, Hungary, Slovakia, and its tires are used on the roads of 30 countries throughout the world.

Quality, reliability and guarantee are the main conditions for partnership for the investment and construction company "Basis - SK". It has been active on Ukrainian market since 1990, and one of its most visible successes has been the renovation of Boryspil Airport. Its services include custom cottage construction, full renovation, and site refurbishing on every scale.

The First Ukrainian International Bank is a relative novice in Ukraine, only having been founded in 1991. To date, it has already obtained a General License of the national Bank of Ukraine, enabling the Bank to conduct operations in hard currency. Its assets now include foreign investments, and its shareholders include financial corporations from unlikely places like Luxembourg and the Netherlands.

Another participant at the show, the commercial bank "Privatbank" also began its operations in 1991. Today Privatbank processes up to 5000 privatization certificates daily, and is looking to expand its activity onto the world stage.

The Ministry of Fisheries of Ukraine was represented by some 20 delegates to the Trade Show. The large delegation accompanied the Ukrainian Minister of Fisheries Shvedenko, who was also on an official visit to meet with government officials at Fisheries and Oceans Canada. In the Ukrainian scheme of things, this Ministry is in charge of ocean and the coastal fishing fleets, as well as of fish farms, fish-processing facilities and a research institute. The Ministry is interested in selling its production on the world market and founding joint ventures.

And so the list continued, from the youthful representatives of the publishing and advertising sectors ("Halitsky Kontrakty" and "Blitzinform") to the producers of the Perlova brand of vodka which Canadians have already embraced and which was only one of the many quality products exhibited by "Lvivska Horilka ta Drishdzhy".

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Business Briefs

New AN-70 prototype planned

(INFOBANK)—Ukraine's Cabinet is asking Russia to boost joint efforts to produce a prototype of the AN-70 aircraft. The first crashed during a test flight in 1994. Deputy Designer-General of Antonov Aircraft, Victor Bolhak said that about US$200 million is required to build the second one. He said that the aircraft is 80% ready and it may take another six to seven months to complete.

U.S. contract for Kherson plant

(INFOBANK)—The Kakhovka electrical welding equipment plant in Kherson has signed a US$550,000 contract with the Chicago firm Chemitron to manufacture a new generation of electrical welding machines which will be used in the reconstruction and building of railway lines. The contract will be valid for seven years. In 1996 the Kakhovka plant should produce two experimental models of these machines.

Crimea going mobile

(INFOBANK)—The director general of the KrymTelekom (Crimean Telecommunications) association, Oleksandr Kuzminov, told Infobank that at the beginning of the third quarter of this year two more Crimean cities — Dzhankoy and Sudak — will be connected to a cellular communications network. Once this has been completed practically the whole Crimean peninsula will be connected to mobile communications at which time.

Price controls for elevators

(INFOBANK)—Ukraine's Cabinet of Ministers has instructed the Economics Ministry and the Antimonopoly Committee to establish controls over the pricing of domestically produced passenger and service elevators in order to avoid unnecessary price increases. These departments together with the State Customs Committee and the State Housing and Utilities Committee have been instructed to prepare proposals regarding the reorganization of elevator imports and support for domestic manufacturers by the middle of June.

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Shell subsidiary expected to get Black Sea contract

(INFOBANK)—The deputy head of the state-owned enterprise Chornomor- NaftoHaz (Black Sea Oil & Gas), Fedir Uryupin, told Infobank that the winner of an international tender for the right to develop deposits in Ukraine's Black Sea shelf is Pecten International Co., a subsidiary of Shell Oil.

Volodymyr Donsky, a member of the tender committee and head of the foreign affairs department within Ukraine's State Committee for Geology and the Utilization of Underground Resources, told Infobank that this was "close to the truth," but he added that the tender committee has yet to make an official announcement regarding its decision.

One hundred and fifty sea sections were offered in the tender for which eight applications were received.

Areas not offered were those with deposits already being exploited by Ukrainian enterprises or by the Ukrainian-British joint venture Krymska Naftova Kompaniya (the Crimean Oil Company). These are the Shtormove, Holitsynske, Odeske, and Shmidt deposits.

JKX submits Shtormove proposal

Says recovery rate can be doubled

(INFOBANK)—The British-based oil company JKX submitted a project for the development of the Shtormove gas condensate field in the Ukrainian Black Sea shelf to the Ukrainian National Committee for Oil, Gas and Oil Refining, May 29.

Under this proposal, JKX plans to double the recovery rate of the deposit, bringing it up to 60% of estimated reserves.

According to JKX, over 30 billion cubic metres of gas can be extracted in the field.

However, in a interview given to an Infobank correspondent, the Deputy Head of the Department of Exploration and Geological Prospecting within the National Committee for Oil, Gas and Oil Refining, Mykola Marukhnyak, said that the estimated capacity of this field is overstated.

Marukhnyak said the Shtormove deposit was developed by the state-owned company Chrnomor-NaftoHas ("Black sea Oil and Gas"), which and the British-based company (in which Calgary's Terenex Corp. has a minority interest) wants to take over.

JKX is a founding member of the Ukrainian-British joint venture The Crimean Oil Company, set up in order to extract oil and gas in the Shtormove area, and holds 45% of shares

The Crimean Oil Company has been granted a 20-year licence from the Ukrainian National Committee for Geology and Deposit Development.

Only 10% of companies pay dividends

(INFOBANK)—According to estimates made by the Ukrainian Association of Investment Businesses (UAIB) only 10% of all businesses which have issued securities paid dividends in 1995.

Experts from the UAIB attribute this low figure to two factors: first, the insufficient level of shareholders' control over their companies' activities; and second, the decision made by most joint stock companies to reinvest their profits.

The UAIB confirms that 55.6% of securities for the right of corporate ownership (for example shares in companies) are held by private citizens, 43.4% are owned by investment funds, companies and trust organizations, and only 1% are owned by other business structures.

According to the UAIB's predictions, the amount of corporate security emissions should increase 1.5 times in the next 2-3 years. According to information provided by the State Property Fund, since privatization in the country began over 5,000 open joint stock companies have been formed and their number should more than double from 1996 to 1998.

Position:

DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR

Employer:

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456 Main Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3B 1B6
Tel: (204) 942-4627 Fax: (204) 947-3882

The Ukrainian Canadian Foundation of Taras Shevchenko is seeking a **Development Coordinator** to provide leadership in planning and conducting fundraising. The successful applicant will report to the Foundation President and Executive Director and will be accountable for contributing to the success of the Shevchenko Foundation Mission of preserving and developing Ukrainian cultural heritage in Canada by working with community volunteers to raise an annual target amount in donations.

Functions

The Development Coordinator will be responsible for all aspects of fundraising, including creating a volunteer network of fundraisers, writing proposals, planning and evaluating events, answering donor and volunteer questions, managing project contractees, creating new fundraising ideas, contacting existing and potential donors, training volunteers in fundraising procedures, as well as assisting the Executive Director. Other responsibilities include representing the Foundation at external events and activities, participating in the evaluation, planning and development of office procedures and participating in appropriate external committees representing the Foundation.

Requirements

The Development Coordinator must have a thorough understanding of the principles of fundraising and the ability to apply them. The incumbent should have 3 years minimum of practical related experience in a broad range of fundraising, volunteer management and events coordination, along with proven administrative skills and an understanding of accounting practices and financial analysis. The successful applicant must be self-motivated and demonstrate excellent communication, interpersonal, planning, budgetary, supervisory and problem solving skills. Applicants may be required to submit a draft fundraising plan for evaluation, based on information to be provided later.

In addition, the Development Coordinator should show an aptitude for directing the activities of volunteers/project workers, be willing to travel across Canada, possess a thorough knowledge of the Ukrainian Canadian community and be able to work in the Ukrainian language.

Salary

A competitive salary is negotiable and will relate to experience and qualifications.

Applications

A detailed resume, marked Confidential, stating salary expectations should be addressed to: Development Coordinator Competition, Shevchenko Foundation, 456 Main Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3B 1B6. The application deadline is **June 14, 1996**.

Odesa gold deposit needs development

(INFOBANK)—An investment of Kbv 2 trillion will be needed to develop the Maysky gold deposit in the Savransk region of Odesa oblast, according to the Odesa information agency UBN.

The Maysky deposit was discovered in 1990 by an expedition from the KirovHeolohia enterprise. Its beds have been explored at a depth of 600 metres.

Currently exploration is being carried out in a section 80 metres in depth. According to estimates made by geologists, reserves in the Maysky deposit give reason to believe that it will be one of Ukraine's largest.

The amount of gold to be found in the Maysky deposit fluctuates from a few to several dozen grams per ton of ore. Its extraction is possible only through underground mining.

Number of state-owned businesses drop by 10%

(INFOBANK)—The number of large and medium sized state-owned businesses is 10 per cent less than last year, reports the City Telerate agency.

As of April 1, this amounted to 40 per cent of the total.

The largest number of state-owned enterprises (more than 70%) remain in the fuel and energy complex, printing, animal feed, and grain and flour sectors. The smallest number are to be found in the light industry (16.5%), food (27.5%) and chemical and petrochemical (28.2%) sectors.

The largest percentage of large- and medium-scale enterprises have been privatized in Kyiv oblast (74%). There is also a high rate of privatization taking place in the Zhytomyr, Chernihiv and Mykolaiv oblast. Less than half of all industrial enterprises have been privatized in Crimea and in the Donetsk and Luhnask oblasts.

Only 2.2% of small-scale enterprises remain state-owned (41.9% are private businesses and 55.9% are collectively owned).

Sports pioneer passes away

Sports/Спорт

(WUCSC)—John Shaley, likely the co-first Canadian of Ukrainian descent to be inducted into a sports hall of fame for work with a Ukrainian community sports club, passed away in Winnipeg on March 11. The Winnipeg policeman and later a member of the Winnipeg Hydro Credit Department was a life-long community and amateur sports activist.

Shaley was born in Winnipeg on May 13, 1908. In the spring of 1926 he joined the first team fielded by the fledgling Canadian Ukrainian Athletic Club (CUAC). Shaley pitched for the CUAC Blues for 14 years.

In 1941, Shaley was appointed coach of the CUAC senior girls softball team. He helped guide the team to three Manitoba championships. In 1949, the team was reorganized and Shaley was appointed its manager. He held that position through 1973 when the local senior baseball league folded. During John Shaley's tenure at the helm, the club won the 1953 Manitoba championship and then ran up an unprecedented string of 17 consecutive provincial titles between 1957 and 1973. In 1957, the Blues won the Western Canada Championship, the first team from Manitoba to attain the honour. In 1965, the team won the inaugural Canadian championship.

Shaley also served as president of the Canadian Ukrainian Athletic Club in the years 1943-45, 1957-64 and 1967 to the time of his death.

In 1991, John Shaley and his brother Stan were inducted into the Softball Canada Hall of Fame for their work with CUAC. The following year, the Shaleys and the 1965 CUAC Blues were inducted into the Manitoba Sports hall of Fame. John Shaley was also honoured that year as the Manitoba Ukrainian Sportsman of the Year.

Three medals at German meets

Ukraine took three medals at a series of athletic meets held in three separate German cities, May 24 and 25.

In Jena, Olena Ovcharova won the women's 100-metre hurdles with a time of 13.33 seconds.

Viktoria Vershinina also took a gold, this one in the women's long jump in Rhede, where she recorded a distance of 6.68 metres, edging out local favorite Claudia Gerhardt.

In Woerrstadt, world bronze medallist Inga Babakova of was second with a jump of 1.96 on a cold, wet day which provided difficult jumping conditions.

Bulgaria's world champion Stefka Kostadinova cleared 2.00 metres to equal her own highest in the world this year and win the US$84,000 Woerrstadt women's high jump meeting.

Team Ukraine to defend its title at Etobicoke tournament

The Ukrainian Soccer Team is one of 16 community teams taking part in the 2nd Annual Striker Spirit Soccer Tournament in support of the Canadian Red Cross Society Metropolitan Toronto Region. Metro Toronto's best amateur soccer players will participate in the event which takes place from July 4-14, in Etobicoke's Centennial Park Stadium.

Team Ukraine will be defending its title.

The Toronto Ukraina Sports Association was founded on June 30, 1948 in Toronto and incorporated under the Ontario Letter Patent on November 19, 1964. In addition to soccer, the Association has maintained volleyball and chess teams. Among the noted achievements of the Ukraina Soccer Team were championships in the National Soccer League in the years 1953 to 1956 and 1965 to 1966, as well as in the metropolitan Toronto Soccer Association in 1991 and 1992. They have also won many junior titles and, in 1991, coach Stan Haba was honoured as Coach of the Year.

The Chornobyl disaster that befell the Ukrainian people in April 1996 seemed almost planetary in scope and its consequences have expanded over the years. Chornobyl heralded a dramatic increase in a variety of illnesses, especially among children. Supporting the victims is a priority of the Red Cross Society Ukraine. Ten thousand Red Cross workers have been involved in post-Chornobyl activities. They helped evacuate people from affected areas and worked in radiation monitoring centres. They carefully inspected homes and attended to victims in clinic. The Ukrainian Red Cross spent six million roubles to help Chornobyl victims and an additional two million to purchase medical equipment for clinics. The National Society's special humanitarian programme for the people living, in the contaminated areas received 2,500 tones of uncontaminated food. More than 100,00 disposable syringes were brought to the area. The Red Cross and Red Crescent have provided 6,650 tons of food, medicine and medical facilities valued at more than US$ 26 million to aid victims. From July to August of 1994, the International Canadian Red Cross (ICRC) delivered $3 million in medical assistance to Ukraine.

Ukraina soccer team meets Ghana in their first game on July 6, China July 7 and Brazil on July 12. The Championship Game will take place July 16.

Sports Briefs

Bubka wins in Oregon

Ukraine's Serhiy Bubka won the men's pole vault at the Prefontaine Classic grand prix meeting in Eugene, Oregon, May 25, with a height of 5.70 metres. Okkert Brits, of South Africa was second and Vasyl Bubka of Ukraine placed eighth. In other events, Inessa Kravets was third in the women's long jump, while Larysa Berezhna was fourth.

Volleyballers in Olympic Pool A

The United States, China, South Korea, the Netherlands, Japan and Ukraine will form Pool A in the Atlanta Olympic women's volleyball tournament. A draw, made at the end of a women's world volleyball Olympic qualifying tournament, placed Russia, Canada, Brazil, Peru, Cuba and Germany in women's Pool B. The Olympic volleyball tournament will run from July 19 to Aug. 4.

Second in regatta

(UWCSC)—The SPA Regatta held in Medemblink, Netherlands concluded on May 26. Skipper Ruslana Taran and crew member Olena Paholchyk placed second in the women's division of the 470 class. The event was won by the World Championship team of Zabell and Dufresne of Spain. The other Ukrainian boat crewed by V. Kravchun and N. Hapanovich placed 11th. In the men's division, Ihor Matvienko and Evhen Braslavets placed 6th while the team of A. Overchuk and V. Honcharov placed 31st.

Medvedev knocked out in second

Ukraine's Andriy Medvedev only managed to make the second round of the US$10.5 million French Open in Paris. After besting Nicolas Lapentti of Ecuador 6-2, 6-2, 6-3 on May 28, he was eliminated 6-3, 6- 7 (10-12), 6-1, 6-4 by Bohdan Ulihrach of the Czech Republic on May 30.

Київському «Динамо» немає рівних

(КБУВ) — Здобувши перемогу в фінальному матчі над вінницькою «Нивою» з рахінком 2–0, футболісти київського «Динамо» вдруге заволоділи Чашею України.

У цей почесний трофей кияни ось–ось вкладуть і золоті медалі національного чемпіонату, позаяк лідирують у першості з великим очковим запасам. Подвійний успіх столичних футболістів обнадією перед їх стартом у престижних европейських турнірах, від яких динамівці були відлучені в минулому сезоні у зв'язку з підозрами в підкупі судді.

Ukrainian Premier Soccer Division
Standings June 4th, 1996

	GP	W	T	L	GF	GA	Pts
Dynamo, Kyiv	30	22	6	2	56	13	72
Chornomorets, Odesa	32	21	6	5	54	25	69
Dnipro, Dnipropetrovsk	32	18	6	8	62	28	60
CSKA, Borysfen	32	15	10	7	46	25	55
Metalurh, Zaporizhia	32	15	4	13	46	41	49
Zirka, Nibas	31	12	8	11	34	30	44
Karpaty, Lviv	31	12	8	11	38	37	44
Nyva, Ternopil	31	13	3	15	36	37	42
Torpedo, Zaporizhia	32	13	3	16	36	46	42
Shakhtar, Donetsk	31	12	6	13	41	40	42
Prykarpatya, Ivano-Frankivsk	32	11	8	13	48	46	41
Tavria, Simfereopol	32	11	7	14	42	45	40
Kremin, Kreminchuk	31	12	3	16	40	54	39
Kryvbas, Kryviy Rih	31	10	7	14	41	51	37
Nyva, Vinnytsya	30	10	6	14	27	31	36
Volyn, Lutsk	31	9	7	15	32	52	34
SK, Mykolaiv	32	8	8	16	35	53	32
Zorya, Luhansk	31	3	4	24	16	76	13

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Ukraine fails to qualify for rugby finals

Ukraine failed to qualify for the the 1997 World Rugby Finals in Hong Kong following the two-day qualifying competition in Lisbon, June 1-2.

On the first day of competition, Ukraine finished second in its group, which included Canada and Switzerland.

Ukraine beat Switzerland 36-0, but lost to Canada 35-0. Canada, which finished first, also defeated Switzerland — 43-0.

The next day Ukraine dumped Austria 43-5, but lost to Namibia 21-7. Namibia, which beat Austria 47-7, ended up qualifying.

Canada also qualified by clobbering Bulgaria 80-0 and blanking Belgium 61-0.

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Women 4th at European Cup

Men knocked out of next year's competition

Ukraine's women finished fourth in the standings at the European Cup Superleague athletics competition in Madrid, June 1-2.

But the men finished in seventh place, which means they will drop out of next year's Superleague competition, along with Sweden, which finished eighth and Finland, which was ninth.

Only the top six teams advance.

Germany led the final standings in the men's competition with 142 points, followed by Great Britain with 125, Italy (110), Spain (106), Russia (103), France (93.5), Ukraine (84), Sweden (75.5) and Finland (53).

Germany also led the women's competition with 115 points, followed by Russia (97), Belarus (79), Ukraine (78), France (75), Great Britain (73), Spain (49), and Bulgaria (46).

Spain and Bulgaria are relegated to the lower level of competition.

Among Ukraine's medal winners were N. Bodrova, who took the gold in the women's 100-metre hurdles, Iryna Poukha, who took the bronze in the women's 100-metre dash, and Vladislav Dohodin, who finished third in the men's 100-metres.

Several athletes finished fourth, including Tatyana Tereshchuk in the women's 400-metre hurdles, Olena Bouzhenko-Martsoni in the women's 800-metre race, Vitaliy Sidorov in the men's discuss and Dmytro Kolesnichenko in the men's 110-metre-hurdles.

Among some of the others competing, Olena Khlopotnova was fifth in the women's long jump, Artem Rubanko was seventh in the hammer throw, Dmytro Lisitsin was eighth in the men's 1,500-metre race, and Volodymyr Dobrydnev was ninth in the 400-metre hurdles.

Ukrainian Olympic page now on internet

(UWCSC)—Media Watch Ukraine, in conjunction with the Sports Commission of the Ukrainian World Congress, is assisting the media bureau of the National Olympic Committee of Ukraine to disseminate information about Ukraine's participation in the 1996 Olympic Games.

One of the vehicles of this effort is the establishment of a new World Wide Web site which will be activated on June 4. The site will feature profiles of athletes, lists of medal winners, photo gallery, what's new, sport and Olympic trivia, Ukrainian Olympic philately, a link to the Carroll County home page (site of the Ukrainian pre-Olympic acclimatization training), etc. The World Wide Web site will be continuously developed right through the conclusion of the 1996 Olympic Games.

The site's location will be: www.mwukr.ca/olympics.htm

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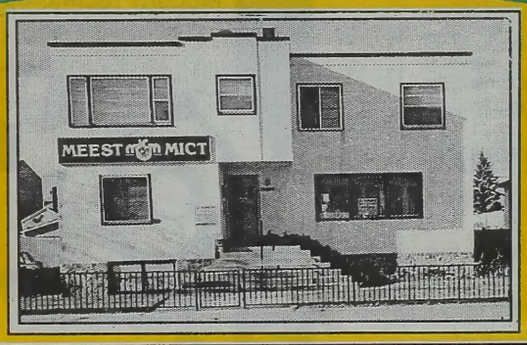

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